

Law Enforcement News

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Can we talk?

Officials take steps to head off 9/11 post-traumatic stress

Law enforcement agencies have long struggled to remove the stigma and sense of personal weakness that many officers feel goes hand in hand with undergoing psychological counseling, no matter how necessary or desirable that counseling may be. The New York City Police Department, whose ranks are still reeling from the trauma of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, has decided not to wait for its employees to reach out voluntarily for help.

On Nov. 29, officials ordered every one of the agency's 55,000 sworn and civilian employees to participate in a three-part counseling program aimed at helping to alleviate the post-traumatic stress stemming from the World Trade Center tragedy.

The move marks the first time that mandatory counseling sessions have ever been ordered by officials of the nation's largest police force. Partly inspired by a similar program implemented to help Oklahoma City rescue workers in 1995, the effort is being funded by the New York City Police Foundation and will be carried out by mental health professionals at Columbia University. The foundation is in the process of raising \$10 million for the initiative.

Said foundation director Pam Delaney, "This is not about diagnosing mental illness. It is just to get people talking, maybe about how your kids are handling it, or how your spouse is handling it. How do you feel about this? To get people to recognize they might not be handling it that well.

That they are having nightmares, or are irritable or can't sleep."

In the immediate aftermath of the event, John Jay College of Criminal Justice offered its assistance to police and the families who might need crisis counseling, said Robert DeLucia, director of the college's counseling department. John Jay lost more than 100 of its alumni and students on Sept. 11.

Twenty-five volunteers from both the college's

55,000 NYPD personnel will undergo mandatory counseling to address emotional fallout from the World Trade Center disaster.

counseling and psychology departments set aside hours to see anyone who was referred by the police departments, was a student at John Jay or had simply heard about the service through word of mouth, he told Law Enforcement News.

The college continues to provide free counseling, and will be listed by the NYPD as a source for police and their families who may want to seek further help. At this point, it is unclear whether John Jay will provide additional

clinicians to lead the debriefing sessions that constitute the first phase of the NYPD-mandated program.

"We're hoping that if anyone is truly feeling out of control, or is concerned about themselves, they'll know we're a confidential source of individual support and not affiliated with the police department," said DeLucia. "For us, it's a wonderful commitment to make."

Post-traumatic stress, experts say, comes in two stages. The first is the acute, common anxiety that begins within days of witnessing or being part of a catastrophe. The stress at that point can be intense, but is within the normal range of human reaction to a disaster, said Dr. Asher Alajem, a psychiatrist at Bellevue Hospital. Only 1 percent to 2 percent of people will develop full-blown post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), he told The New York Daily News.

Within two weeks, most people will get over the sleep problems, feelings of distress or recurring images of the horror, said Dr. Philip Wilner of the New York Weill-Cornell Medical Center, an expert on the syndrome. If they still feel bad, they can grieve, but they will get on with their lives. "The anxieties of war are now present for a population not experienced in war," he told The Daily News.

The small percentage of people who will develop true PTSD may lose their ability to work or have frequent flashbacks. The symptoms show

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Traditional FBI roles are history as A-G redefines bureau's mission

Since September, there has been considerable speculation by local police executives that the FBI would be dropping many of its current law enforcement responsibilities in favor of a new mandate that placed counterterrorism atop the agenda. On Nov. 8, a memorandum by Attorney General John Ashcroft made it clear and made it official: the mission of the bureau would indeed be to thwart future possible terrorist attacks.

Although Ashcroft provided few details in an address to 300 top manag-

ers at Justice Department headquarters, a strategic plan covering the next five years calls for the completion of a review of the bureau that would make foiling terrorist plots a priority.

"We must focus on our core mission and responsibilities, understanding that the department will not be all things to all people," said Ashcroft. "We cannot do everything we once did, because lives now depend on us doing a few things very well."

The Attorney General's statements are the first clear indication that the

Justice Department will be reducing the number of agents currently involved in other issues, such as civil rights enforcement and the prosecution of white-collar criminals and environmental polluters. The bureau may also be stepping back from local drug investigations to save money, officials told The Washington Post, and might even reduce its role in such historic areas of FBI endeavor as investigating interstate auto theft and bank robberies.

"The FBI clearly isn't working at peak effectiveness," said Senator Charles E. Grassley, an Iowa Republican and a long-time critic of the FBI. "As with any reorganization, the devil will be in the details. I hope for new accountability measures, not just structural changes."

Ashcroft, however, may run into political opposition on some of these initiatives, a Senate staffer cautioned. For example, he told The Post, cutting the Civil Rights Division could be a problem. Moreover, a request by Senator Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vt.), the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, that an ongoing probe of an FBI agent's spying for the Russians be expanded to include Sept. 11 may signal that lawmakers are seeking explanations for why U.S. intelligence agencies failed to detect the terrorist plot.

In addition to the restructuring and refocusing of the FBI, a major overhaul

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Portland just says 'no' to FBI

By Jennifer Nislow

Although a number of police departments have voiced concern at requests from the federal government that they help the FBI interview some 5,000 people in this country who are natives of the Middle East, the steadfast refusal of one department — the Portland, Ore., Police Bureau — has made it a lightning rod for intense criticism and forced it to defend its commitment to the war on terrorism.

Shortly before Thanksgiving, Portland's acting chief Andrew Kirkland, who was in command while Chief Mark Krockner was away on vacation, made the decision to reject the request from U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft. Presented with a list of approximately 200 foreign students in Oregon, 22 of whom were within the Portland city limits, Kirkland said: "I didn't have to think too long about it. We're not going to do it."

The list, Kirkland told The New York Times, did not offer any specific information about any crimes the individuals might be involved with, only that they entered the country within the past two years on student, tourist or business visas from countries with suspected links to terrorist cells. Without such specifics, Kirkland said, conducting such interviews would be a violation of a 1981 state privacy law, which

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Rampart scandal goes in the books as 'not so bad after all'

The worst scandal in the history of the Los Angeles Police Department turned out to be not as bad as many had feared, according to county officials, who this month put a coda to what they described as an exhaustive investigation into the misdeeds of officers assigned to the Rampart Division's anti-gang unit.

No evidence of widespread civil rights abuses or other criminality was found outside of the rogue squad, said District Attorney Steve Cooley. The investigations of 50 officers should be closed by the end of 2001 with no new prosecutions, he told The (Los Ange-

les) Daily News.

The conclusions reached by the district attorney's office were much like those reached in March 2000 by the LAPD's own Board of Inquiry. The Rampart Division incidents were chalked up to poor management which had tainted the rank and file but did not spread outside of the division.

"This is not the largest corruption scandal in LAPD history," insisted Chief Bernard C. Parks. "We think we did a heck of a job on the Board of Inquiry report, even though some people criticized us harshly as to how thorough we were, [claimed] we were hiding in-

formation," he said. "I'm pleased we have independent prosecutors saying we did a good job."

One of those who has questioned the probe is Erwin Chemerinsky, a professor of constitutional law at the University of Southern California, who conducted an independent review of the department's report for the city's the Police Protective League.

In an op-ed commentary in The Los Angeles Times on Nov. 11, Chemerinsky all but called the investigation a cover up. "Some basic questions that have never been answered —

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Around the Nation

Northeast

CONNECTICUT — Enfield Police Officer Frank Vincenzo, who was arrested on Oct. 29 on charges that he stole \$40,000 in cash, jewelry, electronics and guns from a friend's home in 1997 and then tried to cover it up by staging a burglary, has had his bail increased from \$50,000 to \$200,000, after police seized 12 guns from his home. Prosecutors accused Vincenzo of lying to court officials when he tacitly agreed with his attorney's statement to Judge Jonathan J. Kaplan that there were no guns at Vincenzo's home.

The Rev. Cornell Lewis and a half-dozen other Hartford residents have been conducting a citizens' patrol to catch drug dealers and buyers in the act, working with police to make sure the offenders are arrested. Lewis said that the police department has been supportive of the joint effort and has been responding promptly to citizen calls.

Workers renovating an apartment in Waterbury recently came across an unusual bit of flotsam: an anti-tank missile. State and local police were called in to remove and detonate the missile. The warhead turned out to be a dud. The building's landlord said that no one had lived in the apartment for at least a year and that the former tenants were evicted because they were too rowdy.

The Ridgefield Police Department may upgrade from 9mm. to .40 caliber handguns. Police say the new 15-round weapons have become the handgun of choice for many state and local police.

East Haven police have installed a reverse 911 system that will be used to send automated emergency messages to residents in the flood-prone town along the Farm River. A \$22,000 federal grant financed the system.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — Congressional leaders have ordered a temporary deployment of the National Guard around the Capitol, marking only the fourth time in the nation's history that troops will have been used to protect the building. The deployment is aimed largely at relieving the 1,295 officers of the Capitol Police force, who have been working six-day weeks, with daily shifts of at least 12 hours, since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Congressional leaders plan to look into additional steps that can be taken to ease the load on the Capitol police, including hiring more officers, reducing the number of police posts by opening fewer doors to buildings, or raising the force's mandatory retirement age from its current 57.

MAINE — A number of communities throughout the state are struggling to find qualified applicants for dispatching jobs, due to such factors as low pay, rapidly changing technology and the high stress level of the job. The Gorham Police Department, which had only three of seven full-time dispatch slots filled, recently moved a detective into the position and is borrowing an officer from neighboring Windham, which has its own dispatch-recruitment problems.

Cell phone users throughout southern

Maine were unable to call 911 for most of the day on Nov. 7, after a power surge burned out components in the telephone system for the 657 exchange. The state Department of Public Safety and the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office notified television and radio stations that callers should use toll-free numbers until the problem was corrected. Officials planned to study the incident to determine whether any system changes are needed.

MASSACHUSETTS — The Braintree Police Department has told officials of the DARE national anti-drug program that it cannot conduct door-to-door solicitation in town. The action was taken after a fundraiser came to the home of James Casey, chairman of the town's Board of Selectmen, selling coupon books and claiming to work closely with the town's DARE officer. When pressed, the solicitor didn't know the DARE officer's name. A stunned Glenn Levant, president of DARE America, claimed that money raised from the coupon-book sales would have gone directly to the police department.

In the wake of a new federal law that gives police and immigration officials broader powers, the ACLU of Massachusetts is distributing pamphlets in English, Spanish and Arabic titled "What to Do if You're Stopped by the Police, the FBI, the INS or the Customs Service." The pamphlet notes that a pilot may refuse to fly a passenger if that person is deemed to be a threat to the safety of the flight, and that the Customs Service can stop and search every traveler, even if that person has valid travel documents.

On Nov. 2, Plainville special police officer Michael Maher, 66, became the third police officer killed in Massachusetts in 13 months while working a construction detail. Maher, who was struck by a 40,000-pound asphalt truck, had worked part-time for the department for 16 years. The accident is being investigated by local and state police. [See LEN, Aug. 20, 1995.]

With the drug both cheap and plentiful, heroin has become the biggest illegal drug problem in Gardner, spurring a jump in the number of overdoses. Police from Westminster and Leominster have helped Gardner with drug cases, as have state and federal agents. Detective Lieut. Gerald J. Poirier said he believed the price of heroin will rise and the drug will become more scarce due to increased security along the borders and coastlines following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

NEW JERSEY — A letter containing a powdery white substance, later determined to be laundry detergent with trace amounts of cyanide, was addressed to an unidentified New Jersey police department. The powder, which spilled onto two Newark postal employees, could not pose a hazard unless ingested. The FBI and state police are investigating.

More than two decades after a Woodbridge officer died in 1979 while trying to save two drowning children from a flooded brook, the township has made good on a promise to dedicate a park to him. A waterfront tract on the town's Seward Peninsula was cleaned up and turned into the Alvin P. Williams Memorial Park. At the dedication

ceremony, Williams's son Ronald presented officials with the folded American flag that covered the officer's casket. The flag will now fly over the park.

NEW YORK — The fiscally strapped Nassau County government is losing money with its two-year-old plan to seize and resell the vehicles of people arrested for drunken driving. County Executive Thomas S. Gulotta ordered the program in 1999, with the aim of auctioning off confiscated cars and pumping the proceeds into the public treasury. However, most of the vehicles have still not been sold and the county has been running up annual storage fees amounting to \$100,000. Gulotta defended the program, which he said has helped to cut drunken-driving arrests in Nassau by one-third.

PENNSYLVANIA — Philadelphia Police Commissioner John F. Timoney has issued a department-wide ban on smoking while on duty or in uniform, after a newspaper photograph showed an officer puffing away as he helped lift a man in a wheelchair outside a burning building. Violators of the new policy could receive written reprimands or harsher punishment.

Pennsylvania state trooper Tod C. Kelly, 43, was killed on Nov. 7 while trying to retrieve a 4-foot metal rod from Interstate 79. Kelly was patrolling alone when he was dispatched to retrieve the debris. He then darted across two lanes of traffic and into the path of a sport utility vehicle that struck and killed him. The teen-age driver of the SUV immediately stopped his vehicle and attempted to help Kelly. The department is investigating whether or not Kelly turned on his cruiser's flashing lights before crossing the roadway.

The Allentown Housing Authority will pay \$1 million to add two extra police officers at each of three public housing developments, including two that have been linked to gang activity. Under the terms of a three-year agreement between the city and the housing authority, the officers will be employees of the city and part of the police department's chain of command. The additional officers are expected to be on the job by early next year.

The Easton City Council has tabled a request to lower educational requirements for police department applicants. Councilman Tim Pickel said he wants more input from the police Civil Service Board before the council votes on reducing the minimum requirement from an associate's degree to a high school diploma. Public Safety Director Skip Fairchild had made the request to reduce the educational standard that has been in place since 1998, citing a declining turnout for civil service tests.

Southeast

ALABAMA — Gov. Don Siegelman and Department of Public Safety Director Jim Alexander say they are preparing to seek bids for the first step in setting up a statewide system where troopers will be able to communicate through computers in their cars as well as over the radio. Alexander said that

the state has "the poorest communications system in the country." One state police official estimated that about 35 percent of the state is not covered by the state's radio communications systems.

FLORIDA — Dozens of residents in Clay and Duval counties got a scare when a police department's alert system called to warn them that their mail could be contaminated with anthrax. The call was no Halloween hoax, but rather the result of a mistake made during the test of the Key Biscayne Police Department's reverse 911 system. According to Deputy Chief Cathy McElhane, the wrong area code had been punched into the system.

The Vero Beach Police Department is seeking state accreditation for the first time, with a team of assessors, composed of law-enforcement officers from other agencies, scheduled to arrive on Nov. 27 to examine the department's policies, procedures, management, operations and support services. Debbie Moody, program manager for the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, said that 83 law enforcement agencies throughout the state are already accredited and an additional 135 are in the process of drafting standards.

The Tampa Police Department has purchased four hand-held identification scanners that can read the magnetic strips and bar-codes on drivers' licenses, military identification and immigration cards. The scanners, which operate like credit card machines, then match the information against a North American data base that can inform officers within seconds whether an ID is fake or has been altered.

The state is seeking the death penalty for an Interlachen police officer accused of killing his estranged wife. Officer Timothy Alessi is charged with pumping a flurry of bullets into the house where his wife Pollyanna was staying with her brother, Kevin Herron. Herron was wounded but later recovered. The shooting occurred less than a week after Alessi's wife filed for divorce.

GEORGIA — Albany police Cpl. Dennis Griffin has been suspended without pay and is awaiting a hearing to determine if he will be fired, for allegedly identifying an undercover Georgia Bureau of Investigation agent to a drug dealer. Maj. Bill Berry said that local and state agents were in the process of setting up a buy in March when the subject was tipped off and the agent's identity compromised. He added that he did not know if Griffin identified the agent on purpose or by accident.

Saye Tiah, a 23-year-old Liberian native who now lives in Powder Springs, sent Smyrna police a threatening letter that contained white powder and reportedly wrote his ex-girlfriend's return address on the envelope. He was charged with terroristic threats and acts and hoax devices, both felonies, and was being held on \$25,000 bond. The powder was tested and proved to be harmless.

NORTH CAROLINA — The Burlington Police Department's Junior Police Academy has received an award of excellence from the National Crime

Prevention Council, in recognition of its success in working with troubled teens. The academy, which started in 1996, is funded mostly through local businesses, organizations and individuals. Each summer, 36 middle-school students spend four weeks working on self-discipline and conflict resolution with police officers. The program was recently expanded to include year-round mentoring.

The state Supreme Court on Nov. 9 dismissed a lawsuit brought by the family of a college student, Kenneth B. Fennell, which claimed that racial profiling led to his fatal shooting in 1993 by a highway patrolman. The court held that the statute of limitations had expired on the claim against Trooper Richard Stephenson and the state highway patrol. Fennell, who is black, was stopped by Trooper Richard Stephenson for going 70 in a 65 mph zone. The trooper said that Fennell fought him and was shot when he tried to pull a handgun out of a bag that also contained white powder, scales and \$1,200 in cash. Investigations concluded that Stephenson acted in self defense.

Police in the Durham area are warning residents about reports of men posing as police officers in the area, who showed a badge and conned their way inside residences, then stole cash and other items.

TENNESSEE — A strip search of Memphis police officers Tim Monistere and Nathaniel Jones has led the city's police association to file a complaint in federal court against the police department and the city. The officers had pulled over and searched Antonio Burks on Oct. 5. Burks then complained to other officers that the two stole money from him. When Monistere and Jones arrived at the department's North Precinct, they were questioned and strip-searched. No money was found. The complaint said that the searches were "highly intrusive" and that both officers were "humiliated and demeaned."

VIRGINIA — Twelve Hillsborough officers recently completed an all-day driving school at Virginia International Raceway, the third such training program organized by Town Manager Eric Peterson to improve officers' safety behind the wheels of their patrol cars. It cost the town \$2,500 to rent the track for the day and another \$500 for expenses such as insurance coverage. The instructors donate their time.

The Richmond field office of the FBI believes that the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and subsequent anthrax scares may be contributing to a sharp rise in the number of bank holdups in the Richmond-Petersburg area. Donald W. Thompson, special agent in charge of the Richmond office, said that criminals may feel emboldened, believing that law enforcement actions have been diluted because of the response to terrorism. The area has had 21 bank heists in the seven weeks following the Sept. 11 attacks — 40 percent of the 52 bank robberies in the area through the first 10 months of the year.

The Norfolk Police Department's Youth new Advisory Board — made up of 14 teen-agers from all five of the city's high schools — has recommended that

the city make recreation centers available to teens after school, provide clean public parks and offer drug-intervention classes at an earlier age. The students will meet regularly with each other, school resource officers and other police to discuss issues of concern in their schools and neighborhoods.

Midwest



ILLINOIS — Ex-Chicago police officer Brian M. McCluskey pleaded guilty Nov. 7 to selling drugs, in a plea arrangement that could get him 12 months in prison. McCluskey, who resigned on Sept. 20, had been on the force for three years when he supplied another defendant with 1,000 tablets of Ecstasy in 1999. During one of six drug transactions he was involved in, the buyer turned out to be an undercover police officer. McCluskey, 27, had started cooperating with the government the day that he was apprehended, according to his attorney.

Geoffrey T. Griffin, a resident of Chicago's South Side, was charged Nov. 14 with strangling or beating to death seven women. The charges came 17 months after he was initially jailed on suspicion of committing the slayings. Police first labeled Griffin the "Roseland Killer" in the summer of 2000, after he gave a videotaped confession and was charged with the first-degree murder of Angela Jones. At the time Griffin denied involvement in the deaths of the other women, all of whom were black and involved in high-risk activities like prostitution and drug use. DNA tests later connected Griffin to all seven crime scenes.

INDIANA — The Evansville Islamic Center has donated an undisclosed sum to the city's police and fire departments and to the United Way to thank them for their responses to recent vandalism at the center's mosque in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

KENTUCKY — The state Court of Appeals ruled Nov. 16 that records in a disciplinary case against former Owensboro police officer Jeffrey Palmer should be made public even though he has resigned. Palmer had contended that divulging the records was an unwarranted invasion of his privacy. He also argued that his resignation ended the Owensboro City Commission hearing, and therefore all related records are preliminary and therefore not subject to the Open Records Law. The three-judge appellate panel viewed Palmer's arguments as an attempt to twist the law, saying that the commission's decision to end the hearing when Palmer resigned amounted to "final action," in which case any complaint that spawned the case must be disclosed.

Jessamine County Deputy Sheriff Billy Walls, 28, was killed and two other deputies were wounded in a shootout while serving a warrant Nov. 13. The assailant was killed by the deputies in the exchange of gunfire. Authorities said the deputies had gone to Phillip Walker's house with a warrant for terroristic threatening, a misdemeanor. Walker fired at the deputies and they returned fire, killing him. The assail-

ant was described as being in his 70s and ill with cancer. Walls, who had been a Jessamine County deputy since June 2000, leaves a wife and a baby daughter.

MICHIGAN — Benton Harbor Police Chief Douglas Wright has been accused of assaulting his wife and using his position to "influence and/or obstruct a criminal investigation." Wright was out of the state when the warrant for his arrest was issued and was expected to turn himself in upon his return. City Manager Joel Patterson relieved Wright of his duties. If convicted, he could face up to 2½ years in jail and \$5,000 in fines for the felony attempted obstruction of justice charge and 93 days in jail and \$500 in fines for the misdemeanor assault charge.

OHIO — State Highway Patrol Trooper Frankie Vazquez, 26, was killed Nov. 5 when his cruiser was struck during a routine traffic stop. David K. Dye, a repeat drunken driver whose blood-alcohol level was more than three times the legal limit, is accused of hitting Vazquez's cruiser. He is being held without bail on a charge of aggravated vehicular homicide. Vazquez, a trooper for only four years, leaves a wife and three children.

Clinton Township police responded to an early morning 911 call on Thanksgiving day from a caller who sounded like a woman in trouble. When police arrived at the address, a house guest let them in and they discovered 150 marijuana plants in the basement. The homeowner, who had been out hunting, arrived home a short time later and, seeing the police, he tried to flee. He was stopped and arrested and charged him with illegal manufacturing of drugs. In the truck, police found a cellular phone and a whimpering dog in the passenger's seat. They think the dog stepped on the phone and pressed the speed-dial button set for 911.

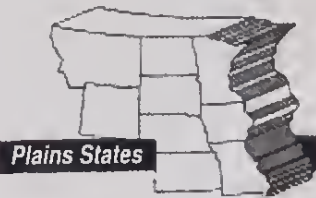
A mistrial was declared in the trial of Columbus Police Officer Richard Thorpe — accused of having unprotected sex while infected with HIV — when his ex-lover blurted out in court that Thorpe had failed three polygraphs. Jane Burris has accused Thorpe of failing to tell her that he had HIV. He is charged with 12 counts of spreading contagion. A new trial date had not been scheduled but the city prosecutor said that they had every intention of retrying the case.

State troopers won't be carrying high-tech flashlights that can detect the scent of alcohol because of questions about the devices' reliability and admissibility in court. Mothers Against Drunk Driving gave the State Highway Patrol about 10 flashlights but they aren't being used. Police departments around the country are using the devices, however, and the manufacturers of the flashlights say the device does the same thing as an officer's nose. Chief Mike White of the Monroeville Police Department said that results from the flashlight are not used in court, but rather as a first alert to a problem.

WEST VIRGINIA — Fayette County Sheriff Bill Laird has asked state lawmakers to create a law enforcement executive training institute for sheriffs and police chiefs. Currently, the state's sheriffs and police chiefs don't get law

enforcement training because they are classified as executives rather than as law enforcement officers. "The best weapon that a police officer carries is his ability to think," said Laird.

WISCONSIN — By the end of January, the Madison Police Department will have experienced the largest departures of command staff in its history. Capt. Jeff LaMar, Assistant Chief Richard Cowen, Lieut. Ross Fleming and Lt. Tim Endres — all from the 1971 police academy class — and Capt. Mike Smith, who joined the department in 1965, are all retiring, and will take with them a total of 161 years of experience. Chief Richard Williams said their retirements will mean "a loss of historical perspective and organizational calmness that has meant consistency within the department." Chief Richard Williams announced that Assistant Chief Noble Wray will move from support services to assistant chief of operations, replacing Cowan, while Capt. Charles Cole has been promoted to assistant chief and will take over support services.



Plains States

IOWA — As a result of a Des Moines-area sweep of convicted sex offenders whose addresses do not match the state's registry, police arrested eight people and were seeking 34 others. Agents from the state Division of Criminal Investigation joined Des Moines and suburban police in the sweep. The state's Sex Offender Registry, which was established in 1995, currently lists has about 4,000 registered sex offenders.

Police departments in Burlington and West Burlington and the sheriff's department in Des Moines County will soon be getting \$600,000 worth of equipment, including 30 copiers and high-speed radio links, that will make it possible to access criminal records from patrol cars without ever having to contact a dispatcher.

KANSAS — Officials in Wichita are hoping that a new plan to register alarm-system owners, which will take effect in February, will discourage costly false alarms. Security system companies that fail to register their customers with the city will be charged \$150 each time an alarm is activated from an unregistered customer. The police department currently charges homes or businesses for false alarms, but the fees often go unpaid.

The Kansas Highway Patrol was honored recently for its efforts enforcing traffic laws and educating the public about transportation safety, winning first place among state agencies with 251 to 500 officers during the 2000 National Chiefs Challenge, sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Contest judges evaluated six areas: officer seat belt use; enforcement of seat belt, speeding and DUI laws; the quality and level of officer training; public information and education efforts; law enforcement activities, and overall effectiveness.

Kansas City Police Chief Ron Miller

has created a career criminal intelligence unit that will coordinate with the Kansas City, Mo., and Overland Park police departments and the FBI to identify violent criminals who often cross state and county lines. Miller said that since 85 percent of the crime in this country is committed by 5 percent of the population, "if we're able to track them, we should reduce crime."

MINNESOTA — The Animal Humane Society looked into the Minneapolis Police Department's treatment of its K-9 unit's dogs after more than 50 people called to complain following a TV news report that showed six German shepherds chained up at night with no shelter in near-freezing conditions. The humane society concluded that the department was not in direct violation of state law, but Police Chief Robert Olson said that the department will make shelter available before the next dog academy.

MISSOURI — Four enthusiastic part-time police officers in Butler raised a few eyebrows when they bought machine guns and called themselves a SWAT team. Mayor Joe Fuller is not pleased and has called the 72-year-old doctor, a nurse and two ambulance workers "thrill seekers" and "hobby cops," but the part-time officers say they resent the characterization and are simply looking for tools to help them protect the community. Private ownership of the arms — four MP5 submachine guns, four M-16 rifles and a dozen 30-round ammo clips — is illegal, so with the acquiescence of the former police chief they told gun dealers that the purchase was for the department. The town's new police chief, Jeff Bloro, who took office in April, saw things differently and confiscated the weapons. The City Council voted to turn the guns back over to gun dealers, but the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has not yet approved the transfer. The four officers have asked city officials to turn the guns over to Bates County Sheriff's Department, which could return the weapons to them.

MONTANA — Mohan Rafferty, a student at Montana State University and a native of India, admitted to police to making a false report of being harassed by white supremacists for a week following the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11. He had told police that he received at least four threatening letters, including one that was taped to a rock and thrown into the front window of his apartment. Rafferty was sentenced in Bozeman Municipal Court to a six-month suspended sentence and a \$500 fine, plus court costs.

NEBRASKA — For the first time in its 15-year history, the Latino Peace Officers Association in Omaha has an official home. The group was provided free space by the Chicano Awareness Center, in a building that also houses a community health program of the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Richard Rivera, a consultant and former New Jersey police officer who was arrested in Sarpy County while investigating how law enforcement agencies handle complaints against officers, is suing the sheriff's office for racial discrimination, illegal search and arrest, and violation of his free-speech rights. The highly publicized episode began on the evening of May 8 outside the county

jail when Rivera posed as a citizen trying to learn how to file a complaint against an officer. The incident led to his eventually being handcuffed and jailed. Tim Butz, the director of the state chapter of the ACLU, said that Rivera's constitutional rights were ignored.

SOUTH DAKOTA — Rapid City police on Nov. 8 arrested a security company employee and charged him with impersonating a police officer after receiving reports that he stopped traffic and told motorists they were illegally parked. When arrested, Fernando B. Voelker, 21, asked the officer if it would hurt his chances with the state Highway Patrol, as he had applied for a job with them.

WYOMING — Police agencies throughout the state are shunning a "hog-tying" technique to subdue suspects, following a decision by a Denver-based federal appeals court. The court was acting on a suit brought against the Laramie Police Department by the brother of a man who died when police hog-tied him in 1996.



Southwest

COLORADO — Denver police Lieut. Douglas Gehm was placed under a mental health watch after arming himself with a knife at home, prompting his family to call fellow officers for help. Sgt. Tony Lombard said that at some point during a family disturbance, Gehm picked up the knife but he did not threaten anyone in the house or any of the officers with the weapon. SWAT team officers had to subdue Gehm with bean bag ammunition even though he had put down the knife. Lombard said that Gehm will be relieved of duty with pay until an evaluation is completed.

Three horses, a trailer and associated tack and grooming equipment were sold at auction Nov. 3 for a total of \$2,124, signifying the end of the Aspen Police Department's two-year-old mounted police unit. Police Chief Joe Cortez, who is leaving Aspen to take a post in Pismo Beach, Calif., decided last summer that the annual cost of the program, including \$3,000 for care of the horses, couldn't be justified.

Lakewood police say that their training sessions for hotel and motel employees have already led to arrests. The four-hour training sessions include tips on how information gleaned from registration can be used to check problems. In one instance, an employee called police after a fire alarm kept going off in a room, leading to the arrest of a woman on drug charges. In the other case, a desk clerk spotted a guest using a credit card with an expiration date that failed to match the confirmation report. The guest was arrested on drug charges.

Only three of the 129 Denver police officers who have shot someone since 1990 have been disciplined or reprimanded, even though the city has paid millions of dollars to shooting victims and their families. Police Chief Gerry Whitman defended the department's discipline and said that the police department's Firearm Discharge Re-

Around the Nation

view Board, made up of five command officers, looks at different factors than a judge or jury, and reviews cases only if no charges are filed or if the officer is acquitted. Of the 248 incidents that the board has looked at since 1990, officers shot at suspects or the cars they were riding in 149 times, missing nearly half the time. In the rest of the cases, police shot vicious dogs, injured deer or accidentally shot at themselves.

Bob Rowan, who calls himself "El Dildo Bandito," was issued a criminal summons on Nov. 13 for taking 21 multicolored ceramic penises from an exhibit called "Art Triumphs Over Domestic Violence" at the Boulder Public Library's Canyon Gallery. Rowan said he was offended by the sculptures as well as a previous controversy in which the head librarian refused to make a patriotic display of a large American flag. He was charged with tampering, not theft, because prosecutors said it would have been impossible to prove that he intended to keep the sculptures.

NEW MEXICO — The Albuquerque Board of Education on Nov. 14 approved a proposal to allow school district police officers to carry firearms before and after school hours. The proposal also requires Albuquerque public schools to pay for the weapons. Talk of arming police officers began in 1995, and intensified this year after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Kim Murray, president of the Educational Police Officers Association of New Mexico, said that there was tremendous support in the community for 24-hour arming of school officers, but some parents were reportedly unconvinced that armed officers meant better security.

OKLAHOMA — Former Oklahoma City police chemist Joyce Gilchrist says she feels vindicated after new DNA tests tied a man on trial for killing two elderly women to the rape of one of the victims. Gilchrist had linked Ronnie Clinton Lott's DNA to the sexual assaults of Anna Fowler and Zelma Cutler, but the FBI has since accused her of shoddy forensic work, and her conclusions are the subject of several investigations. After new tests, however, Judge Virgil Black refused to delay Lott's trial. In the 1980s, a jury con-

victed another man, Robert Lee Miller, Jr. of the murders and sentenced him to death. In 1998, he was released from prison after being cleared by DNA evidence.

TEXAS — A federal jury has cleared Houston police officers Steven Rowan and D. M. Knapp of accusations that they violated the Fourth Amendment rights of three teenagers when they strip-searched them at a fire station in 1997. The officers' attorney argued that they had acted on probable cause, based primarily on an informant's tip that one of the suspects was hiding drugs in his rectum. The officers said they smelled marijuana when they encountered the suspects, and took them to the nearest city-owned facility to be searched. They did not, however, perform body-cavity searches because the department policy requires a search warrant and doctor.

Dallas Police Officer Christopher James, 34, died Nov. 25 after he and another officer were involved in a shootout at a nightclub. Four city police officers were working security off-duty at a nightclub when a fight broke out. A man who was asked to leave the club shot James and Officer Clarence D. Lockett, and other officers then shot the suspect when he tried to flee. Lockett and the suspect, Licho Escamilla, 19, were treated at a local hospital. Escamilla, who was the subject of a murder warrant for a Nov. 8 slaying in west Dallas, is charged with capital murder in James's death.

The 10-year-old daughter of a Houston police officer was suspended and transferred to an alternative education campus after taking a loaded pistol to her elementary school. The gun was discovered after the girl began bragging to classmates about the pistol inside her backpack. The assistant principal was alerted and he retrieved the backpack. The girl was questioned by police and internal affairs investigators. Police spokesman Robert Hurst said the officer is cooperating and is still on duty.

The Austin Police Department is putting finishing touches on a high-tech computer-crime lab and will soon begin training as many as 20 detectives in computer forensics and online inves-

tigation. The new lab will be outfitted with 30 new computers and top-of-the-line equipment. Currently, Central Texas has only one certified computer forensics expert, Det. Cliff Blanchard, who spent 13 years as a computer programmer before joining the department.

UTAH — On Nov. 3, a pipe bomb packed with fertilizer exploded at a grocery store in American Fork, causing no injuries but forcing the store to close while police investigated. The bomb was left near the store's front entrance in a shopping cart. Tupperware containers filled with fertilizer were packed around the bomb to enhance the explosive effect, but the fertilizer did not ignite. Police had no suspects and no threats had been called into the city.

Salt Lake City's head police chaplain, Max Yospe, has announced his resignation, citing the increased cost of using a take-home police car. The Internal Revenue Service requires civilians to pay a tax for the benefit of using take-home police cars. He said he had always felt he was offering an important service to the department, "and now it seems in order to do so I have to pay for the privilege." Yospe, a retired Salt Lake City police officer who has been the department's head chaplain since 1975, turned down requests by police administration to stay on the job for another three months, through the Winter Olympics.



ALASKA — The Fairbanks City Council is considering a proposal, backed by Police Chief James Welch, that would repeal a local domestic violence law and instead have police enforce the state domestic violence law. The city hopes to save thousands of dollars in jail and court costs by having the state prosecute and incarcerate offenders. District Attorney Harry Davis warned, however, that handling a larger caseload would probably mean that his office would have to strike more bargains with misdemeanor offenders.

CALIFORNIA — The Turlock Police Department has scored a resounding success with an orange mailbox that it set out for letters and packages people think might be tainted with anthrax. Lieut. Doug Dodge said that the number of calls received about suspicious mail was running the department ragged, but the number has dropped significantly and the police are now getting calls of a different sort — from agencies across the country interested in the drop-box concept. So far, no anthrax-tainted letters have appeared in the state. But just to be on the safe side, the mail in the Turlock drop-box will eventually be incinerated.

San Bernardino Superior Court Judge Frank Garkowski Jr. issued an injunction Nov. 9 that continues a temporary restraining order against 22 suspected members of the Five Time Hometown Crips, barring them from associating with each other in public and imposing nighttime curfews and other restrictions. A conference is scheduled for January, at which time a judge could

decide to issue a permanent injunction.

Los Angeles County will get \$1 million in federal funds to start developing a uniform radio communications system for its numerous emergency response agencies. Local members of Congress had requested the funding in July, pointing out to the House Appropriations Committee that safety personnel in the county use many different radio frequencies and formats. The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks added impetus to the issue. Representative Jane Harman, a Democrat from Redondo Beach, said the communication problem is so bad that "it is literally easier for officers from different departments to yell out of their cars to each other than it is for them to dial up on their radio frequencies."

More than 260 participants from disciplines ranging from law enforcement to public health met at a conference at California State University-Fresno to learn how Geographic Information Systems, GIS, were used in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. Maps were assembled to show such details as road and subway closures, availability of power and water, the locations of underground hot spots and where rescuers could go to get water. The gathering in Fresno was one of a series of GIS Day conferences held worldwide.

A Muslim fundamentalist was arrested Nov. 7 for allegedly vandalizing religious statues at Roman Catholic churches in Los Angeles and Culver City. Emad Ibrahim Saad, who is being held on \$70,000 bail, has been charged with vandalism of a place of worship, but prosecutors are said to be considering the addition of religious hate-crime charges.

There are four Protestant pastors in the Simi Valley Police Department's chaplain program, but with the community growing more diverse, the department is now looking to add a Roman Catholic priest and a Jewish rabbi. Would-be chaplains must fill out a 24-page application and undergo a psychiatric evaluation. Once accepted, they receive training one day a month for three years. They also do monthly ride-alongs with patrol officers to develop their relationships.

NEVADA — Washoe County inaugurated a new program on Nov. 7 that makes it the fifth court system in the country to replace punishment with treatment for some mentally ill offenders. The mental health court is intended to reduce the jail population and ease caseloads for public defenders and prosecutors. The program will take about 30 offenders during its first year, rather than the planned 300, after the legislation setting up the mental health court passed without the \$1 million that was requested. Jail counselors and the district attorney will assess court eligibility of nonviolent offenders with mental illness. Violent offenders are ineligible.

The state Supreme Court has rejected an appeal from former Reno police officer Mark Markiewicz, who was fired because a misdemeanor domestic-violence conviction prevented him from carrying a gun. Markiewicz was convicted in 1997 after wresting a knife from his ex-wife, thinking she was sui-

cidal. The two had been arguing and he had been drinking. Federal law makes it illegal for anyone convicted of domestic violence charges to carry a firearm.

OREGON — The Douglas County Sheriff's Department is returning \$375,000 in federal grants intended to place officers in schools. Three of five positions funded in 1999 by the Justice Department's Cops in Schools Program were never filled. The sheriff's office has discontinued the practice of assigning officers exclusively to school-based duties. Instead, deputies divide their time between schools and patrolling and investigating crimes in the community.

Police uncovered an identity-theft operation while serving a warrant at a Portland home. Investigators seized a substantial amount of property and equipment used to make fake IDs, along with a large amount of blank check paper stock, the software needed to create bank checks, and a pipe bomb. The suspects had also used stolen credit cards to pay for a locksmith class and key-making materials, which they then used to steal mail from locked mailboxes.

Damon Woodcock, a Portland police officer who underwent a sex-change operation and has been away from work since a harassment incident in July 1999, has filed a new stress-related claim on top of a claim already pending in mediation. Woodcock, whose April 2000 disability claim failed on a 5-5 vote, appealed the decision and a judge sent the matter back to the 11-member board of the Portland Fire and Police Disability and Retirement Fund. The board voted in July to schedule a new hearing on that claim. The new claim asserts that Woodcock also suffered stress during interviews with the department's internal affairs division. [See LEN, Feb. 28, 2001.]

With the approach of the holiday season, when transient-related crime and disorder is higher than usual, Salem police have begun a sweep of local homeless camps that is expected to last several weeks. Code Enforcement Officer Brandon Bennett said that the sweep was not directed at the homeless population as a whole, but rather at those camps that have been tied to criminal activity. Police say crime problems arise during the early winter when people are trying to gather money to get out of the weather.

WASHINGTON — A report released Nov. 14 by Seattle Police Chief Gil Kerlikowske concludes that the city's police show greater restraint in using physical or deadly force compared with other large American law enforcement agencies, particularly during encounters involving fatal police shootings. Out of about 470,000 documented contacts between officers and citizens last year, use of physical force was found to occur 0.13 percent of the time, compared to a national estimate of just under 1 percent. There were 626 incidents of use of force, including nine shootings, the report found. Of the nation's 50 largest police agencies, Seattle police were said to rank in the bottom half of most fatal police shooting categories, including fatal shootings per 100,000 residents, fatal shootings per 1,000 officers and fatal shootings per 10,000 violent crimes.

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Report backs Wyoming merger

Although there may be resistance to the idea of consolidating the Jackson, Wyo., Police Department and the Teton County Sheriff's Department, the concept should be fully explored as a way of realizing considerable savings in time, money and efficiency for the community, according to a report by a law enforcement consultant released in October.

Town officials hired the consultant, Charles Reynolds, in May to examine the police department and initiate the search for a new leader in the wake of former chief Dave Cameron's death. Cameron was killed last April in a tractor accident.

In his analysis of the agency, Reynolds, a retired police executive from New Hampshire and former president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, recommended that a future consolidation of the two departments be considered, and that in the short run, some law enforcement duties be combined. The sheriff's department, he said, should take over the investigation of serious crimes. As investigative techniques become more expensive, sophisticated and training-intensive, said Reynolds, the need for a single team becomes more evident.

The town of Jackson, he said, also spends nearly twice as much as other jurisdictions in the state on law enforcement, \$298 per capita as compared to the Wyoming average of \$164. It also has a higher ratio of officers to residents, 2.7 per 1,000 as compared to the state average of 1.3. Said Town Admin-

Consulting report promptly lands in new chief's lap.

istrator Michael Parda: "We have a lot of police officers. We don't have a lot of crime."

Police department staffing levels, he said, are pegged to a number somewhere between the town's 8,600 permanent residents and the summer population, which can swell to 40,000. Reynolds said he took the seasonal disparity into account.

Presenting his report before the Town Council in October, Reynolds noted the successful consolidation of the departments' administrative functions. The sheriff's office administers the jail and dispatching, and both departments share a records management system.

Combining the agencies would raise some budgetary issues, but Teton County Commission Chairman Bill Paddleford said it would not be all that difficult to accomplish.

Pointing to the joint board of the Jackson-Teton County Fire Department, he said, "It's not like we're headed down virgin territory."

A consolidation under the sheriff's department would also make sense because it has the larger of the two agencies and administers both the jail and dispatch. During the Green Knoll fire

in July, the police and sheriff's departments worked in tandem.

"You couldn't tell who was wearing brown shirts and who blue," said Paddleford, referring to the agencies' respective uniforms.

But Parda argued that if the town of Jackson wanted to consolidate its police force under the sheriff's department, it would have already done so. "Can we as the leaders and managers of these services overcome our personal biases and view consolidation objectively?" he asked in an interview with The Jackson Hole News. "Part of it is a pride thing. I really believe if the community demanded consolidation, the elected officials would respond."

Even though a combined law enforcement agency might make economic sense, conceded Reynolds, there is a "human perspective" to it all that is difficult to quantify.

"A lot of communities want their own police department and are willing to live with some downsides to meet that goal," he told The News. "What you have is a lot of good people who would be trying to do the right thing but would be clouded by emotions. It could become acrimonious."

Close on the heels of the Reynolds' report, Mayor Jeanne Jackson announced that she would name interim police chief Peggy Parker to the post on a permanent basis. Parker, a 21-year JPD veteran, acknowledged the insights gained from the consultant's assessment and said she planned to follow through on its recommendations.

Auto 'mug shots' show their worth in St. Louis area

A computerized "mug shot" book of automobiles seems like such a straightforward idea, someone must have thought of it before now, right?

Wrong. For what may be the first time, law enforcement will have at its disposal a digitized data base containing 5,000 different cars made by 16 different companies, to help witnesses and victims identify vehicles connected to crimes. Auto Search Inc. was developed by Richard Schmelig, a retired engineer from McDonnell Douglas Corp., who plans to launch his product after receiving photos of the new 2002 models.

"There are so many vehicles out there now, police couldn't possibly know them all, and the public certainly doesn't," he told The St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The CD-ROM, which costs \$475 with a yearly update available for \$175, is being marketed to the St. Louis area first, and then will be expanded nationally.

Local police said they know of no other product like Schmelig's. A book published by the American Automobile Manufacturers Association which included only Ford, Chrysler and GM models, stopped being produced in 1993.

Schmelig's compilation has already been used by the Bel-Ridge, Mo., Police Department in a case involving a 7-year-old boy who was hit while riding his bike. Some 30 witnesses saw the car

speed away from the accident, but descriptions ranged from an Oldsmobile to a Corvette. Using Schmelig's software, police were able to identify the car as a 1994 Chevrolet Beretta. The driver has not yet been caught, said Lieut. Dan Clyne, but there is a better

A CD-ROM helps police and the public clear up confusion when cars are involved in crimes.

chance now. "It helped us tremendously in narrowing our search," he said.

The CD-ROM includes nearly 90 percent of all American and foreign-made cars produced from 1980 until now, with the user able to search the images according to make, model, year, size and even such details as the shape of the tail lights. Images can be reprinted and e-mailed to other police agencies, media outlets and witnesses.

In Granite City, Ill., several fifth-graders were asked to look through Auto Search in March after reporting to police that a man in a sports car tried to abduct them. Although police never found the person to go with the Chevrolet Cavalier identified by one of the children, the incidents stopped. Said Maj. Richard Miller: "We look forward to seeing the finished product. And if we have the money in our budget, we may buy it."

With volunteer help, Albuquerque rolls out new system for spotting troubled officers

Using a new early warning system designed by one of the department's senior volunteers, Albuquerque police officials are confident that they can identify officers whose behavior or performance might be slipping before it lands them before the city's Police Oversight Commission.

While it had long been a goal of the department to have an early warning system, its development got a push from the 18-month-old commission, said Deputy Chief Ray Schultz. Members of the oversight panel had wanted such a program in place because they were repeatedly seeing the same officers, Schultz told Law Enforcement News.

"They wanted to make sure we did have a system that would identify officers before they got to the level where they see police-citizen complaints coming in front of them," he said.

The problem was that none of the programs the department either purchased or had created by its own information technology people seemed to work.

"We had the other systems that we had been entering information into and we just couldn't get it to pull information out," said Schultz. "We had to go and say, 'Let me see this officer, let me see that officer,' instead of just saying show me everyone who had a total of five in combination of all these different things. And this new system does that."

Finally, one of the agency's volunteers, a retiree from the Sandia National Laboratories, Jay Davidson, told the department that he could come up with a

usable program if they found him a computer with certain capabilities. It did, and Davidson developed the system in a matter of months.

"All the work was done by him," said Schultz.

The program draws information from five different sources: internal complaints, citizens' complaints, accident reports, notices of torts and use-of-force forms. An officer whose name comes up more than five times in the previous 12 months is required to sit down with a commanding officer for an audit. The system's first report, pro-

duced in October, flagged 10 officers and two sergeants. The combined record for those identified included 62 uses of force, four lawsuits filed and nine internal investigations.

The system is overseen by the department's internal investigations unit. Area commanders receive the reports first, said Schultz. Based on their recommendations, officers could be sent for further training or undergo counseling. If a further investigation of the incident deems the force used to be justifiable, no action is taken. Such was the case in the first round of audits, said

Schultz. Records of the alert will go into the officer's file.

The system does not take into account absenteeism and other personnel issues that might indicate potential problems, although it does give the dates of the incidents in which the officer was involved.

"They're required to look it over and meet with the employee, so if they see, for example, that all these citizen police complaint reports are occurring on a Monday, maybe there's an underlying issue that needs to be looked at," said Schultz.

Georgia phone line warns DWIs of police checkpoints

Police in the Athens, Ga., area say they are not too concerned about a new phone service that provides information about where drivers might be stopped by law enforcement.

"I think we come and go so fast, by the time the information is relayed, it can't be of any value," said Sheriff Scott Berry of neighboring Oconee County. "We might have a road check for 30 minutes and then move it. This doesn't bother me at all."

The service, called See-a-Cop, is the brainchild of Glenn Weaver. For \$1 per call and a \$10 membership fee, Weaver provides information on police activity to within a 75-mile radius of the caller's location. He relies on members to report roadblocks or motorists

stopped for moving violations, according to The Associated Press.

"A lot of people want to avoid the police when they're on the road," Weaver said, "and if they're speeding they'll slow down. If they've been drinking and there's a roadblock, they'll wait and sober up before they go out."

The service is advertised on billboards in Athens, Atlanta, north Florida and Auburn, Ala. Weaver said he hopes eventually to expand See-a-Cop nationwide, particularly in college towns. People, he said, "were calling all night" after the Georgia-Florida football game in October. The towns of Gainesville, Fla., and Milledgeville, Ga., were "eaten up" with roadblocks, said Weaver.

See-a-Cop, Weaver insists, does not encourage people to drive illegally, although an estimated one-third of drivers in Georgia do drive without insurance. His service helps them avoid fines of up to \$250 by warning them of roadblocks where officers ask to see proof of insurance. "They're not necessarily dangerous drivers, they just don't have insurance," he said.

Said Maj. Keith Morris, commander of the uniform division of the Athens-Clarke Police Department: "I don't see it having much of an effect on us. But if a billboard's up there and people see that if they come to Athens-Clarke County they need to slow down and drive carefully, then they're doing our job. It kind of helps us out."

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Back for more

Raymond W. Kelly, a familiar and reassuring presence to many New Yorkers who remain shaken in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, will be returning to his old job as the city's police commissioner, a post he held during the early 1990s.

Kelly, 60, is believed to be the first person in New York police history to serve as commissioner in nonconsecutive administrations. As police commissioner for 14 months during the administration of Mayor David Dinkins, Kelly led the NYPD during the World Trade Center bombing in 1993. In an interview prior to Kelly's appointment



Kelly
Round Two

on Nov. 13, Mayor-elect Michael R. Bloomberg praised Kelly's résumé and called him "my adviser on public service for a long time."

"He was police commissioner before," noted Bloomberg. "He went to Washington, where he did a spectacular job."

A 32-year veteran of the NYPD and former U.S. Marine, Kelly went on to help the troubled nation of Haiti modernize its police force after he left municipal government with the defeat of Dinkins in 1994. He later worked for the Clinton administration as the Treasury Department's under secretary for enforcement, and then as head of the Customs Service.

During his police career, Kelly earned a law degree from St. John's University, a master's in law from New York University and a master's in public administration from Harvard. In answering Bloomberg's call to return to public service, Kelly will be leaving behind a six-figure job as global head of corporate security for the investment firm of Bear Stearns.

His first stint as commissioner came at a time when the city was experiencing more than 2,000 homicides a year, fueled in part by a raging crack epidemic. Kelly has been credited with restructuring the department's Internal Affairs Bureau and emphasizing minority recruitment. He helped draft the administration's Safe Streets, Safe City program, which drove the number of officers from 25,465 to 28,500, but Kelly's championing of community policing principles did not survive him.

When Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani succeeded Dinkins in 1994, he and members of administration disparaged community policing as "glorified social work." Supporters of Kelly have noted that his rare second turn at bat may give him a chance to prove himself. Kelly

has promised to continue the dramatic inroads made against crime under Giuliani, while also working to strengthen police-community relations.

In the nearly eight years that Kelly has been away, the NYPD has grown to more than 40,000 officers through the agency's absorption of the New York housing and transit police forces. One of his goals, said Kelly, will be to have more detectives assigned to the FBI-NYPD Joint Terrorism Task Force, where they will do more than traditional surveillance tasks. He will also try to achieve more information sharing between federal and local law enforcement.

Change of plans

As a song by John Lennon has observed, life is what happens to you when you're busy making other plans. Perhaps that's just how the script played out for retiring Avon, Conn., Police Chief James Martino Jr., who had originally joined the force thinking he would become a juvenile court officer one day.

Martino, who ended up spending 40 years with the department — nearly half of those as chief — was fresh out of the Army when he joined the force in 1961. A Korean War veteran, he really wanted to become a juvenile court officer, but needed five years of police experience to be considered, so he signed on with the first police department that offered him a job.

As it turned out, he told The Hartford Courant, "I realized that I loved police work so much that I just couldn't leave."

Since Martino joined the agency, the Avon Police Department has grown from two full-time patrol officers and a handful of part-timers to 31 sworn officers and five dispatchers, plus administrative staff. There has only been one murder during his entire career with the department; a 1980 shooting involving a man who killed a teenage co-worker.

Succeeding the 64-year-old Martino, who became chief in 1983, will be Peter Agnesi, a 24-year veteran of the Avon department who made the move up from lieutenant. Agnesi was sworn in on Nov. 1.

While Martino did not even have a computer on his desk, Agnesi has a keen interest in technology and has been a key participant in the department's effort to upgrade its ability in that area. He was also pivotally involved in the agency's successful attempt to be nationally accredited.

"The goal will be to continue the types of services that we've been providing to Avon's citizens for a long time," Agnesi said.

Photo finish

Each day on the job, Albuquerque Police Chief Jerry Galvin is reminded of the tenuousness of his position as a political appointee as the photos of all of his predecessors stare down at him from the wall. Now Galvin's photo will be joining them.

With the defeat of Mayor Jim Baca on Oct. 2, Galvin is out. As is common

in Albuquerque, the new mayor, Martin Chavez, will choose his own chief when he takes office on Dec. 1. But the 59-year-old Galvin is not ready to leave law enforcement.

"I love being a cop," he said. "I don't have to be a chief. I'll certainly start looking in the professional journals."

Galvin led the Toledo, Ohio, Police Department before coming to Albuquerque in 1998. The changes he made were immediate. Galvin shifted the agency to a 10-hour-a-day, four-day-a-week schedule. While that made many on the force happy, his decentralization of Albuquerque's elite homicide bureau did not win him friends. And he had been chosen for the top job from outside over two veteran APD officers.

The city's murder total, which hit a record of 70 two years before Galvin's arrival, has been cut during his tenure to 33 in 2000. Overall, serious violent and property crimes have been slashed by more than 25 percent since he took office.

"The history here is, you change chiefs every four years," he told The Albuquerque Journal, with a tinge of regret at not getting a chance to finish the job he started. The periodic switch of police leaders, he said, does not help the department. "It really inhibits improvement and growth because you go in new directions all the time."

In his letter of resignation, Galvin said the past three and a half years "have been the most difficult, frustrating, challenging and rewarding in my 30-plus years in law enforcement."

Vertical mobility

In the nearly eight years that Richard Pennington has served as superintendent of the New Orleans Police Department, he has formed a management team that will be able to maintain the vast improvements that are his legacy to the agency, observers said this month.

Pennington has taken a leave of absence to run for mayor in the Feb. 2



Pennington
Eyeing City Hall

election. But even if he loses, it is unlikely that his rival will renew his contract when it runs out in May.

A former Washington, D.C., police official who was hired by Mayor Marc Morial in 1994, Pennington has achieved a drastic reduction in the city's crime rate. During his tenure, New Orleans' annual murder total has dropped by more than half, from 425 in 1995 to 190 as of mid-November this year. Hundreds of officers have been added to agency, raising its strength to 1,700.

He also focused on crime within the agency, which had endured regular reports of officers selling drugs, killing critics and committing other major crimes. The department underwent a thorough overhaul of its internal affairs unit, which was effectively abolished in 1995 and replaced by a new Public Integrity Division. By Pennington's own count, 350 officers have been arrested, fired or replaced.

Musing on Pennington's departure, Causeway Police Chief Felix Loicano, who as a major in New Orleans had headed the PID, said: "I like to think it's a continuation as far as the New Orleans Police Department is concerned. The New Orleans Police Department should follow through with what the chief has started, and we should continue to grow. I guess only time will tell if we do."

Morial, who lost his bid to run for a third term when voters this month rejected a proposed amendment to the City Charter, has chosen Pennington's second-in-command, Deputy Chief Duane Johnson, as interim chief. Johnson is a 28-year veteran.

"We're not going to miss a beat," said Lieut. David Benelli, president of the Police Association of New Orleans. "The mark of a good organization is the organization is better than any one person. Chief Pennington did a very good job with the New Orleans Police Department, but this department will go on without him."

Regardless of the outcome of the race, Morial said Pennington will finish out his contract. The leave of absence will also allow him to keep the \$50,000-a-year pension he is entitled to. Were he to resign before May, the pension would drop to \$32,500.

Blue notes

His tenor voice has enthralled crowds at Yankee Stadium, where New York City Police Officer Daniel Rodriguez has been a fixture since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Now the city's mayor has joined the singing cop in a duet to benefit the victims of the World Trade Center tragedy.

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani will read a rare four-line introduction to a rendition of "God Bless America" that Rodriguez sings on a CD that was due out in time for Christmas. The CD single, which will also feature another song written specifically for it, is to be priced at \$4, with all proceeds earmarked for the Twin Towers Fund.

Rodriguez, a former vice cop who is now a community affairs officer assigned to the Manhattan South command, sang the classic Irving Berlin song during every Yankees' home game in the recent playoffs and World Series. He not only caught the ear of the mayor, but that of opera legend Plácido Domingo, who has invited Rodriguez to study in the Vilar Young Artists Program in Washington, D.C.

Rodriguez also recently earned an ovation when he performed the Berlin classic at the opening night of Carnegie Hall's 111th season.

In addition to the CD with Giuliani, produced by a division of EMI Capital Records, Rodriguez has a recording deal with the company and is working on another disc that will be released in February.

In from outside

The benefit to being an outsider is the fresh ideas one can bring to the table, and that is what Lakewood, Colo.'s new chief, Ronald Burns, has promised to do.

A former police chief in Tempe, Ariz., and Kirkland, Wash., Burns was chosen by city officials this month from a field of seven finalists, including interim chief Gary Barbour, a captain and 29-year veteran of the force. A nationwide search was launched last year when Charles Johnston announced his



Burns
Fresh Thoughts

retirement after 20 years in the position.

"For me being an outsider, so to speak, just getting used to the people and the situation" will be a challenge, Burns told The Rocky Mountain News. "Yet, on the other hand, I think that's a strength because I have some fresh ideas and a fresh approach."

Burns is currently the executive director of the 100 Club, a nonprofit group in Tempe that supports the families of local police officers and firefighters killed or seriously injured in the line of duty. A graduate of Northern Arizona University, Burns has done graduate work in public administration at Arizona State University and is continuing his studies at Ottawa University in Phoenix.

He praised the quality of the Lakewood force and the community, citing their high caliber as the reason he took the job. "I think the way I work will fit with Lakewood very well," said Burns.

Johnston, who served with the department for 30 years, retired on Jan. 6. He began his career in 1970 — the same year the Lakewood force was created — and served as acting city manager in 1984 and 1985. The Lakewood Police Department was named one of the eight best suburban departments in the nation in 1996 by Good Housekeeping magazine. At that time, one of every 10 officers on the force went on to become chiefs or sheriffs in communities throughout the nation.

"We made an agreement that the first of the year would be the best time to go," City Manager Mike Rock said of Johnston. "He just thought that it would be best for him."

Policing, law enforcement,
public safety — by any name,
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DC homicide unit faces another overhaul

Whether housed together or dispersed to locations throughout the city, Washington, D.C.'s much criticized homicide unit continues to close cases at a rate far below even its own personal best of 70.1 percent in 1997.

The failure of the Metropolitan Police Department to raise those figures prompted Chief Charles H. Ramsey in October to introduce a plan that would revamp the squad, recentralizing a unit he had dismantled soon after assuming command of the agency in 1998.

Under Ramsey's new initiative, the homicide unit will be staffed with 48 investigators from around the city, and a major crime division that investigates serial rapes, pattern robberies and unsolved cases would be manned by 12 detectives. There is also a plan to create a 24-member team of sexual-assault investigators.

The department's remaining 336 detectives would stay in the districts, investigating non-life-threatening crimes, including auto theft, burglaries, robberies and shootings.

"In many respect, a decentralized

model requires an abundance of highly skilled, experienced detectives to adequately cover all assignments — something the department simply does not have at this time," Ramsey told *The Washington Times*. The current environment, he noted, was not right for such a stratagem. "I had to make a move."

The plan to move the homicide unit back under one roof marks at least the fifth time that department leaders have reorganized it since 1994. The chief at the time, Fred Thompson, decentralized the unit after it was faulted for solving too few cases, abusing overtime pay and not following basic procedures. It was recentralized by Thompson's successor, Larry Soulsby, but then decentralized by him based on the findings of a \$5-million study conducted by consulting firm Booz-Allen & Hamilton in 1997. Under interim police chief Sonya T. Proctor, the detectives were again recentralized.

Three years ago, Ramsey planned an overhaul of the entire department — the fourth such restructuring in four

years — that included moving 400 detectives who worked in specialized squads, including homicide, into the city's seven police districts. By 1999, the bureau's structure was replaced by three regional operations command centers, each led by an assistant chief. Some 150 detectives were reassigned and lieutenants put in charge of beats.

But many investigators have since been lost to attrition, and the department is currently implementing a procedure aimed at standardizing the selection, training and supervision of its investigative ranks, said Ramsey. Decentralization, he said, did not permit him to adjust resources to changes in homicides patterns. The MPD's structure was unique among 13 U.S. cities, according to a draft report by the District Council Judiciary Committee on the organization of such squads.

During Ramsey's tenure, the homicide closure rate has fallen from 64.5 percent in 1998 to 48 percent thus far this year. In 1997, detectives closed 70 percent of cases, the highest rate in the last 10 years. Yet despite the trouble-

some clearance rate, murders in the city were down 16 percent from 2000, or from 242 at the end of last year to 172 as of October 2001.

An analysis of homicide trends released by the department in October showed that more than 90 percent of 367 suspects arrested for murder between 1998 and 2000 had a prior arrest for a violent crime. Just 15 had not been arrested previously.

Reacting to the latest decentralization move, Sgt. Gerald G. Neill, chairman of the Fraternal Order of Police Labor Committee, said: "I know this was a difficult decision, but service to our citizens means that we sometimes have to make difficult decisions." Neill criticized Ramsey for not supporting the detective ranks or providing training. The city, said Neill, needs to make solving homicides its main priority.

Federal funds at stake for 14 states with Megan's Law problems

Millions of dollars in federal grants are at stake for 14 states that had been warned last summer to tighten up their sex-offender registration laws or lose 10 percent of funding used to pay for community crime prevention and victim assistance programs.

In June, the federal Bureau of Justice Assistance notified Maryland, Ohio and 12 other states that they would lose a percentage of their grants under the Edward J. Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance program if they did not make changes in their version of Megan's Law. Since the 1994 rape and murder of 7-year-old Megan Kanka by a convicted sex offender living near the child's New Jersey home, all 50 states and the federal government have passed some type of registration law.

The government gave states until October to modify their laws to require that sex offenders register with local authorities for life, and until November 2002 to require that they register in both their home state and states they visit for school or work.

For Ohio, which receives \$19 million a year, the loss in funding would amount to nearly \$2 million.

"It may not seem like a lot, but communities are counting on this money for programs that have proven to be a success," Domingo Herraiz, director of the Ohio Department of Criminal Justice Services, told *The Associated Press*.

More than half of the department's funding comes from the grant, and may be used by local law enforcement for drug- and alcohol-treatment programs, community policing efforts, victims' advocacy projects and task forces.

According to Herraiz, the state had just passed its law in 1998 when it was told it had to make changes. Only those labeled sexual predators are required to register for life, and that designation can be changed by petitioning the court.

Besides Ohio and Maryland, the other states are Alabama, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Texas, Virginia and Washington.

Some states believe themselves to be in compliance, according to the National Criminal Justice Association. According to the NCJA, Texas has contacted the federal government to find out why it is listed as non-compliant. In Virginia, officials contend that their sex-offender registration law is sound. The state would stand to lose \$1.1 million from its \$11.5 million annual grant.

"We've made the case to the feds that we have a law that's in compliance even though it doesn't exactly track the wording that the feds want to see," said Joe Marshall, a spokesman for Virginia's Department of Criminal Justice Services. "Now we're just waiting for them to agree with us so they can leave us alone and give us our money."

Milwaukee chiefs are now down to a four-year contract

Since 1984, the tenure of a Milwaukee police chief — once a lifetime appointment — has been pared down first to one of seven years, and now to a four-year term, under a proposal approved this month by the city's Common Council.

The ordinance will not affect Chief Arthur Jones, who is in the fifth year of his seven-year term, said Joseph Czamecki, executive director of the Police and Fire Commission. Jones could be reappointed to a new four-year term once his current appointment is up, he told *Law Enforcement News*.

"It came up and ultimately, they decided four years was appropriate primarily because that's the term of the mayor and the Common Council," he said. The tenure of the chief and elected officials would not be in sync, however. Under Milwaukee's rules, the chief is appointed by the Police and Fire Commission, the members of which are named by the mayor. Chiefs may be ousted only by the commission, and only for cause.

"The chief could resign today, or

retire, and we would hire a new chief tomorrow whose [four-year] term would begin tomorrow and not be co-terminous with the terms of the mayor and the council," said Czamecki.

The proposal, which had been approved in October without objection by the council's Public Safety Committee, was developed by Aldermen Michael Murphy and Rosa Cameron. While each had their own reasons for wishing to reduce the length of time a chief could serve, criticism of Jones was said to have played a factor.

Murphy contended that Jones's performance has not been "above average." With recent controversy, he said, it is "apparent" that seven years in the position is "too long."

Cameron, a supporter of Jones, said that a communication breakdown with the mayor's office occurred three years into the chief's term, as it did with his predecessor. "It's been a distraction," she told *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. "It's a political game being played at the expense of the community when you see the two major players at odds."

The shortened term will pose some challenges for the Police and Fire Commission, said Czamecki. Before a state law imposed a term limit of no more than 10 years, the chief was appointed for life. There will obviously be some additional work and cost involved in possibly having to recruit a new chief every four years, he said.

"Another concern is if we're going to recruit outside of the department, is someone willing to pick up and move their family with only a four-year contract?"

Still, those are not insurmountable obstacles. After all, noted Czamecki, chiefs in many major cities may serve unlimited terms, although serving at the pleasure of the mayor comes with no guarantees.

Cincy PD expands its horizons in chief searches

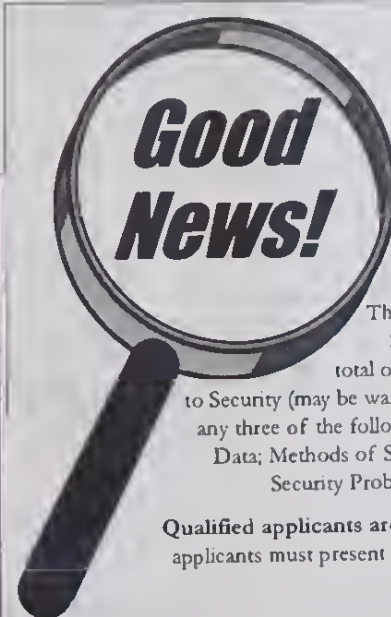
The Cincinnati Police Division will be able to recruit candidates for chief from outside the agency, thanks to a city charter amendment approved by voters on Nov. 6.

A survey of 51 cities of similar size, conducted by *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, found that only three besides Cincinnati — St. Louis, Tulsa and Bakersfield, Calif. — do not have the option of conducting a national search for police chiefs. Said Barry Baumgarner, a consultant with a Florida-based firm that helps police departments and municipalities improve their management: "There are very few places left in the country that limit chiefs only to the inside."

A similar measure was rejected by

voters in 1997, but this time, city officials broadened the scope of the amendment to include future fire chiefs, assistant police and fire chiefs and approximately 80 other city supervisors. It was endorsed by both the NAACP and the city's Chamber of Commerce.

While defending the division's record on innovation, Cincinnati's top-ranking black officer, Assistant Chief Ronald Twitty, said he supported the idea of a national search for future chiefs. The agency should start thinking more like a corporation that hires from the largest possible pool of candidates, he told *The Associated Press*. But that would not mean, Twitty added, that somebody on the inside would not still rise to the top position.



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NYPD takes aim at post-traumatic stress

Continued from Page 1

up about four weeks after the event, said Dr. Philip Bialer, head of psychiatric consultation at Beth Israel Medical Center. Some 200 survivors and rescuers were counseled there immediately following the attack on the World Trade Center.

Jeffrey Mitchell, a psychologist and associate professor at the University of Maryland, who founded the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation in Ellicott City, Md., said police are among those most likely to suffer from a range of symptoms. The foundation is a nonprofit organization which Mitchell said has trained some 30,000 emergency workers worldwide, including New York firefighters and police officers.

"One of the things that should be recognized is law enforcement is one of the threatened breeds," Mitchell told LBN. "They have a very substantial chance of developing PTSD. That's particularly so for urban-based police officers."

Among police, the proportion of those developing PTSD is 16 percent to 30 percent, Mitchell said, depending on where they are and what duties they perform. "Some people with mild symptoms continue to function, but if something really big happens, they could get seriously stirred up."

In one case, Mitchell recalled, a Swedish police officer continued to taste and smell the blood of a 12-year-old who died as the result of a car accident. During CPR, the child's blood got into the officer's mouth. "It would come at very inopportune times when he least expected it," said Mitchell. "However, he was quite able to continue to perform on the job. When you get mild to moderate levels of PTSD, police officers can continue to function. They may hurt or be discomforted by certain things, but it doesn't disable them."

Mitchell added that those officers who can say to themselves after a "suicide by cop" incident or an operation gone wrong that they followed procedure to the letter, regardless of the outcome, are often less likely to develop post-traumatic stress. Those who second-guess themselves or believe they could have changed the result stand a greater chance of developing symptoms.

"In essence, the world is not made up of truth and fact," he said. "The world is made up of perceptions of those facts. If an officer feels he contributed to the death of another person — whether that be true or not — that's the weight he has to carry and that's what makes PTSD."

A factor that will be detrimental to New York officers is the time spent at the disaster site and the time it then will take many of them who live outside the city to get home, said Det. Kurt Satherlie, a member of the West Hartford, Conn., Police Department who is trained in peer counseling.

Satherlie was a member of one of the teams sent from other law enforcement agencies to help officers get past the trauma.

"Talking to quite a few of them, they went from mandatory 16-hour, six-day-a-week shifts to 12s, thinking that's a reprieve," he told LBN. "I'm sure it is, because most of them don't live in an apartment or condo nearby. And I know if I hear it once, I heard it several times, there are going to be a lot of divorces



The smoothest adjustments, experts say, will be made by those World Trade Center rescue workers who get a chance to talk about their experiences and their emotions.

after this is all done, along with all the psychological trauma. That was really prevalent."

The smoothest adjustments will be made by those rescue workers who get a chance to talk about their experiences, said Daniel Weiss, a professor of medical psychology at the University of California-San Francisco, who specializes in post-traumatic stress disorder.

New York City Police Commissioner Bernard B. Kerik has acknowledged that the department's new program is only part of a mental health plan that still needs to be completed. The mandatory counseling sessions were

conceived just days after the attack. Stress management, he told The New York Times, "represents only the first component of what will be a multifaceted process."

The ultimate goal is doing whatever the department can for its officers and their families, said Kerik.

Group therapy sessions, which make up the first phase of the NYPD's program, will be conducted more like informal rap sessions or town meetings. These sessions will be led by some 500 mental health professionals who are volunteering their services, and by active or retired officers who are now

serving as peer counselors. Participants will be scheduled to attend with their units in groups of about 20.

The second phase will give officers the opportunity to receive counseling at Columbia University for themselves or family members. The effort involves the creation of an emergency telephone line and referral system. The bills from Columbia will be sent anonymously to the Police Foundation, with no record of specific officers who requested the help. John Jay College will also be volunteering its services as a resource.

During the third and final part of the program, organizers will hold what they

describe as a health fair. In discussion groups led by counselors, family members and spouses will be able to talk about emotional health issues and other concerns in the months since Sept. 11.

Noting law enforcement's ingrained suspicion of mental-health counseling, DeLucia said he thought there would be some resistance. "Some people may feel they don't need it, or they may question the motivation of the department," he said. In the end, though, he believed people will be glad they participated in the briefing sessions.

"My sense is the department is making a commitment to police officers by providing this service," said DeLucia. "If they're done well, people will get beyond the fact that they're mandatory."

It is premature to diagnose who will suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, said DeLucia, noting that the onset of symptoms is still months away. Not only did police and other rescue workers numb themselves in the aftermath of the attack as a way of protecting themselves, he said, but they also want to be seen as "toughing it out."

"Who wants to be seen as falling apart during this difficult time?" DeLucia said.

The collapse of the Twin Towers is unlike anything else, observers agreed. "This was trauma-plus," said DeLucia, who noted that experts will be writing about the event and its aftermath for years to come.

"It's so big," said Mitchell. "It's extraordinary in every sense of the word. Not only did many of these people narrowly escape themselves, others had friends who they just talked to that went into the buildings and never came out again. Then on top of that, everybody had the horrific experience of looking at it coming down right before their eyes."

Terrorism hunt takes to college campuses

Most schools honor FBI, INS requests for info on foreign students

In the name of national security, and with little legal ground for opposition, the nation's colleges and universities are by and large fully cooperating with federal law enforcement agencies seeking personal information about foreign students here on visas.

According to a survey by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) last month, 144 institutions have been contacted by the FBI since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and 56 by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Some were contacted by both agencies, and some only by local police. Of those institutions that disclosed information, only 22 of the requests were accompanied by subpoenas. Just one college flat out refused to comply, it said.

The 62-campus State University of New York system issued a memorandum to its administrators in November, asking them to release information because security concerns outweigh privacy issues. "SUNY's policy is to cooperate with the federal officials according to the law," a university spokesman, David Ferguson, told

The Washington Times.

New York has 55,000 foreign students, making the state second in the nation to California. An estimated 820,000 students enter the country on foreign visas each year.

In Bloomington, Ind., Indiana University administrators turned over the names of "hundreds" of international students covering a five-year period of enrollment in classes on English as a second language, said a spokesman, Richard Doty.

Attention was drawn to foreign students on American college campuses following reports that one of the suspected suicide pilots, Hani Hanjour, came to the United States on a student visa in November 2000. Hanjour, who is believed to have flown the jet that crashed into the Pentagon, never showed up for his English classes at an Oakland, Calif., language school.

Authorities examined two types of student visas: the F1, which is the traditional international student visa, and the J1, or the international scholar exchange. Barnak Nassirian, associate executive director of the registrars' association, told CNN that investigators in 34 cases sought information about enrollment in

specific classes. Most of these involved flight courses.

While students' confidential information is usually protected by federal law, the law provides an exemption during a "health or safety emergency." Moreover, foreign students sign a waiver permitting colleges to let the INS know when the person arrives on campus, the individual's field of study, whether the mailing address has been changed and how many credits the student has earned. To clear up any misunderstandings about students' rights to privacy, the U.S. Department of Education has issued a decision that the law's emergency provision enables colleges to release information — in most cases, without having to inform the student that administrators have done so.

Under the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, which mandated the creation of a data base, colleges have been required to collect much of the information that authorities are seeking, but were asked to stop sending it to the INS years ago because of the enormity of the paperwork. The program, first implemented in 21 schools on a pilot

basis, has since amassed some 40,000 records.

"Schools have been keeping this information in paper form," said INS spokeswoman Eyleen Schmidt. "It's taxing on INS resources."

The creation of a data base was opposed by some institutions because it would have entailed a \$95 fee from student-visa holders, but resistance has died down in the wake of Sept. 11.

"The system is basically designed to link the schools, INS, Department of State and Department of Education into a data base that would house information on foreign students," said Schmidt. One provision of the act requires schools to report any disciplinary action taken against a student who has been convicted of a crime.

Not all colleges have been accommodating. Bill Schwarz, a spokesman for Union College in Schenectady, N.Y., said administrators there would request a subpoena. Added Indiana University's Doty: "On one hand, we want to comply with federal agencies. On the other, we want to balance the privacy of students."

Portland becomes lightning rod for criticism

Continued from Page 1

prevents police from maintaining profiles on individuals not connected with criminal investigations.

Another issue for Portland, as well as other departments, is the potential damage that the directive could cause to community-policing efforts [See LEN, Oct. 15, 2001.]

In a memorandum from the deputy attorney general's office to members of joint anti-terrorism task forces nationwide, local officers are reminded that the interviews are not custodial interrogations. Unless the individual wants the meeting to take place away from his home, workplace or neighborhood, the memo said, police should not ask the person back to the station house.

While all "appropriate means" of encouraging cooperation should be used, said the memo, police should be mindful of mentioning "an individual's potential criminal exposure." The Immigration and Naturalization Service, it said, should be notified if an interviewee is suspected of having violated immigration laws, although the primary purpose of the interview is not to ascertain the legal status of the individual.

"You should also be careful not to inquire into an individual's religious beliefs and practices," the memorandum notes. "It is appropriate to ask whether the individual has witnessed or heard any persons advocating the use of violence or terrorism. However, it is not appropriate to question or otherwise challenge the validity of religious beliefs or practices."

Among the 24 questions listed, police are urged to ask the individual's reaction to terrorism; whether he knows anyone who has ever participated in armed conflict; has suffered any violence or threats because of religion or nationality; and whether the individual knows anyone who has had any involvement in plotting or committing terrorist activities.

The person should also be queried as to his knowledge of terrorism in terms of knowing anyone who is capable of or willing to carry out such acts, and if he or anyone else he knows has received training that could be applicable to terrorist activities, such as flight lessons.

Kirkland's refusal was backed up by city officials, but many in Portland were disapproving. In the days following the decision, several highly critical letters, phone calls and e-mails were sent to the department, including one e-mail that called Portland the "City of Shame."

An editorial in The Oregonian newspaper accused the agency of not doing its share in the antiterrorism effort. There was the "whiff of insincerity," it said, about Mayor Vera Katz's explanation to reporters of why the department would not be cooperating. While fear of being perceived as having used racial profiling is understandable, said the paper, the issue is not one of targeting minorities for traffic stops.

"[T]his is about preventing future terrorism and conducting the largest criminal investigation in U.S. history," the newspaper asserted. "Right about now, federal officials ought to tell Portland, 'Never mind, we'll do it ourselves.'"

The decision also drew complaints from the department's own rank-and-file, who called the city's stance a "national embarrassment." Said Sgt. Robert King, president of the 950-member

Portland Police Association: "Officers have a concern about how they are seen by their colleagues, both locally and nationally. Clearly the law is being read in different ways, and clearly that puts them in a bad light."

According to Kroeker, however, the department's participation in the investigation has been wrongly characterized. The Portland Police Bureau has been cooperating 100 percent with federal authorities, he told Law Enforce-

In Eugene and in Corvallis, Ore., police and city officials have been reluctant to assist the FBI. Chief Jim Hill of Eugene said this month that if the questions were modified so that bias-based policing ceased to become an issue, he would be willing to commit "a couple of officers" to help federal agents. Investigators want to speak with 50 men in Eugene.

"I'm trying to be able to honor their request while mitigating the perception

municipal officials are considering ways to handle the request that local police interview some 570 men. Detroit and Dearborn are homes to some of the nation's largest populations of immigrants from the Middle East.

A 22-page state police report presented in October to the Michigan Legislature cited Detroit as a "major financial support center for many Middle East terrorist groups..." It is conceivable, the report said, that sleeper cells

is no secret that the Detroit area has the largest population of Arab Americans. "This was not intended to isolate that segment of the population," he told The Washington Times. "And the threat element includes the entire spectrum, from [a] lone gunman to terrorist groups."

In November, the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, Jeffrey Collins, said that letters would be sent to hundreds of Middle Eastern men in lieu of sending investigators door-to-door. "The letters represent a conscious decision by our district to initiate contact with the people who will be interviewed in the matter that will be least intrusive," he said.

The letter asks that individuals contact Collins's office by Dec. 4. Interviews, it states, are voluntary since authorities have no reason to believe the individual is involved in terrorist activities. But, says the letter, "It is quite possible that you have information that may seem irrelevant to you, but which may help us piece together this puzzle."

A spokeswoman for the Justice Department, Mindy Tucker, said that while she was unaware of any other region in the nation handling the interview process in this manner, there seemed to be nothing wrong with Michigan's approach.

Collins, however, has refused to say what steps authorities would take with those who failed to respond to the letter. Lawyers and community leaders said many foreigners, fearful due to their immigrant status, would not come forward. Others who lived under oppressive regimes in their own lands might be too intimidated to contact police, they said.

"There is no daylight between us. We are shoulder to shoulder on every active investigation in this part of the region."

— Portland Chief Mark Kroeker

ment News.

"There is no daylight between us," he said. "We are shoulder to shoulder on every active investigation in this part of the region. We are represented more heavily on the joint terrorism task force than any agency in Oregon. We are training other police organizations in biochemical response protocols, we have taken very seriously every threat and are developing our plans effectively in a coordinated effort with the federal authorities here in Portland."

Although state Attorney General Hardy Myers issued an advisory opinion that gave the city the green light to conduct the interviews, local officials based their decision on the advice of Deputy City Attorney David Lesh.

The City Attorney's office, said Kroeker, was "closest to the action, closer to us" and has been litigating cases specifically on this point. "Because of our work on eco-terrorists, intelligence on animal rights terrorists and the like, we're litigating cases right now." The city was advised that Ashcroft's directive was a problem," he said, "and [that] we'd better not do it."

Michael Mosman, the U.S. Attorney for Oregon, said that while he believed the request did not violate any state or federal laws, if the PPB did not want to conduct the interviews, there were plenty of agencies around the state that would be "more than willing to help." Myers has authorized the state police to assist the FBI with the interviews.

Kent Robertson, an assistant U.S. attorney, said that while he disagreed with Portland's decision, he respected it. They have made a "tremendous contribution" to the overall investigation, he said.

And some departments had no problem with the FBI's request. Chief Edward Flynn of the Arlington County, Va., Police Department, said that while he had not officially been notified, he saw conducting the interviews as little more than the type of canvassing done by police after a crime. The constitutional issue, he told The Times, had been overblown.

"The chiefs that I've talked to, I think, will do anything possible to assist this country in what we're going through right now," added Bill Berger, the police chief of North Miami Beach, Fla., and president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Other agencies have expressed qualms about the directive, however, citing fears of racial profiling. Portland was the first in the nation to refuse, but others have issued similar statements.

in community that we're basically targeting folks based on their race and ethnicity and religion," he told The Times.

Corvallis officials said that while they believed the interviews were legal, they felt their police department's efforts were better used pursuing criminal suspects, and thus they would not be assisting with the interviews. Said Chief Pam Roskowski in a statement: "It is incumbent on all law enforcement agencies to promote the balance of protecting the community while preserving the freedoms and civil liberties of all residents."

In Ann Arbor, Mich., Police Chief Daniel Oates said that he has not yet been contacted by the FBI about interviews, but that he had "questions about the propriety" of the directive.

Throughout the southeastern part of Michigan, law enforcement and mu-

may be located in the southeastern region of the state, which is known as a "lucrative recruiting area and potential support base for terrorist groups."

The document was compiled from law enforcement data gathered over the past two years from all 83 counties in the state. Most of the 28 terrorist groups identified by the State Department are represented in Michigan, according to the report, which cites the FBI's Detroit field office. "Examples include such well-known terrorist organizations as Hezbollah, Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Egyptian Brotherhood, Al-Gama'at, Al-Islamiyya, and Osama bin Laden's terrorist organization — Al Qaeda," the report notes.

Mike Prince, a spokesman for the state police, said the report was not intended for the public but rather was part of an effort to raise federal money for anti-terrorism efforts. Still, he said, it

S. Carolina A-G wants police cross-deputized as INS agents

The specter of racial profiling was raised in October when South Carolina Attorney General Charlie Condon proposed that in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, state law enforcement be given the authority to enforce federal immigration laws and police be deputized as agents of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

Condon, the state's Republican candidate for governor, called illegal immigration an economic issue that has become one of public safety. "I think if you look at the terrorist situation right now, it's been well documented that some of those terrorists were here illegally," he said.

The initiative has received support from Senator John Hawkins (R.-Spartanburg) and Representative James Klauber (R.-Greenwood), who said they would introduce the proposal to the Legislature in 2002.

If passed, South Carolina would be the first state in the nation to give such powers to local authorities.

"The overwhelming tide of illegal immigration could provide cover for terrorists," Hawkins told The Associated Press. "We must close this gap in our defense."

But Condon's comments have raised fears of a witch hunt in the state's immigrant community. According to the INS, in 1996 — the most recent year for which final figures are available — there were between 4.6 million and 5.4

million illegal aliens living in the U.S.; more than half of them believed to be from Mexico. The largest Middle Eastern contingent here illegally consists of Pakistanis, said INS, which estimates their numbers at 41,000.

Since 1990, the size of South Carolina's Hispanic population has more than tripled to 95,076, according to 2000 Census figures. Some 52,871 people were described as Mexican.

At a news conference, Condon remarked that illegal aliens could be spotted on sight. "You can go around the streets of Columbia, and you can see people that there's every reason to suspect are not here legally," he said. Later expanding on his comments, Condon added, "You go to a construction site or see a landscaping crew and none of them speak a word of English. I'm not saying that in and of itself is a reason to investigate. In and of itself, that's not sufficient, that's racial profiling."

Condon said he would give strict instructions to prohibit the use of bias by authorities.

"Certain groups will be singled out and we've seen this already in the Muslim-American and Arabic-American communities," said Michele Waslin, senior policy analyst for the National Council of La Raza, a civil rights organization, in an interview with The AP. "Clearly the vast, vast majority of people are not terrorists. Taking it out on all immigrants is not the way to com-

bat terrorism."

According to INS spokesman Bill Strassberger, the granting of enforcement powers has so far not been given to any city or state. While Salt Lake City had once considered it, officials bowed out in response to protests from the community.

Other jurisdictions were thwarted by lack of funding and the 10 months of training required, said Strassberger.

Condon, who is known for his conservative views, sparked a controversy several months ago when he dismissed charges against a woman who had fatally stabbed her estranged boyfriend after he broke into her home. Condon called the incident a home invasion.

His recent proposal has the support of hundreds of residents, he said, as well as that of the Federation for American Immigration Reform, a group that favors lower immigration.

Condon said he is in favor of legal immigration. His own ancestors, he said, came to this country during the Irish potato famine. But the attacks in Washington, D.C., and New York have prompted him to push for more secure borders in South Carolina.

In a letter to U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, Condon wrote: "The events of Sept. 11 provide the best evidence yet that, coupled with the menace of terrorism, illegal immigration poses a clear and present danger to our national security."

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House too meth-y? These guys clean up.

The messy and delicate work of cleaning up illicit methamphetamine labs makes up nearly one-third of the business for Able Clean-Up Technologies, yet the owners of the Spokane, Wash., company say they would be just as happy to see all of that work go away.

Business is booming for Able, one of a handful of hazardous-waste handling firms certified by the state of Washington to go in after a meth-lab bust and restore properties to a habitable condition. Over the past two years, company owners Kipp Silver and Jason Moline have cleaned up some 100 sites and have taken in over \$1 million in revenue.

"It wouldn't hurt our feelings one bit if this aspect of the business went away," Silver told The Spokane Spokesman-Review.

The Spokane Regional Health District refers victimized property owners to Able and four other companies when their homes and rental property have

been destroyed by meth makers. The fumes from the drug-making process, which smell much like cat urine, seep into anything porous in the house, including furnishing, carpeting and curtains, and the bathrooms, living rooms and bedrooms are often crammed with stolen possessions that drug makers hope to roll over into even more profit.

Able is hired by landlords to discard furnishings, power-wash walls and ceilings and rip out carpets. The jobs cost between \$1,500 and \$5,000, but restoring a property can cost tens of thousands of dollars once lost income and other hidden expenses are tallied up.

While the company's reach extends to Idaho and Montana, those states do not require landlords to clean up properties that have been used as labs. According to Paul Savage, an environmental health specialist, some 200 labs have been raided in Spokane since the early 1990s. So far this year, there have been 70 busts.



In a full-cover protective suit, an Able Clean-Up worker gets down to business at a meth-lab site.

Domestic violence is a crime for the ages

Age matters in violence between domestic partners, according to a new study by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, which found the rate of victimization of females between the ages of 16 and 24 in 1999 to be nearly three times that of the overall rate of intimate violence against women.

The overall per-capita rate of non-fatal partner violence against females ages 12 and up that year was 5.8 per 1,000, the study reported, while those in the 16-to-24 age bracket were victimized at a rate of 15.6 per 1,000.

The findings in "Intimate Partner Violence and Age of Victim, 1993-1999," were based on estimates made by the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The report, which was released in October, found that the most common offense among the 791,210 violent crimes committed by a current or former partner in 1999 was simple assault, which represented 66 percent of the crimes. Fourteen percent of victims were raped or sexually assaulted.

Intimate violence against females, who in 1999 represented 85 percent of the victims, fell by 41 percent during the overall period studied, declining from an estimated level of 1.1 million violent crimes in 1993 to 671,110 in 1999. But during those years, the level of violence fluctuated on a year-to-year basis for women in the various age categories. For females ages 35 to 49, researchers found the rate of violence in 1993 to be higher than in every year

that followed. The rate also fell significantly for women between the ages of 25 and 34 between 1998 and 1999, although it had remained stable up to that point.

According to the study, 53 percent of victims were battered by a current or former boyfriend or girlfriend. One-third of all victims described their assailant as a spouse, and 14 percent said it was an ex-spouse. The older the victim, the more likely it was that the abuser was a husband, researchers found.

In 1999, women were more likely to be killed by an intimate partner than were men. Seventy-four percent of the 1,642 people murdered by a domestic partner that year were female, said the study. This was true in every age category, particularly for women between the ages of 35 and 49.

Black and white females, the study found, had similar rates of domestic abuse, except for those women between ages 20 and 24, where African American women were found to have a victimization rate roughly 45 percent higher than the rate for white females.

Women who were separated from their partners experienced a higher level of victimization than women in any other marital category, said the study. Separated women between the ages of 20 and 24, and between 25 and 34, had the highest annual rates of violent victimization, 151 and 118 per 1,000 respectively.

Fraser:

Getting the drop on street gangs & terrorists

By William J. Fraser

The attack on America on Sept. 11 changed life for everyone — everywhere.

The events that transformed our world are well known. What is unknown is how we will adjust to these changes. The word "security" has taken on a completely new perspective for each of us.

As commissioner of the largest municipal correctional system in the world, I am well aware of security and its antithesis, violence. From the terrorists, we are quickly learning about violence with a new perspective. Like the terrorists, our street and jail gangs — referred to by us as Security Risk Groups (SRGs) — have adopted different belief systems that are clearly not rational. As criminal justice professionals, the more knowledge we have about the people who perpetrate violence, the greater the sense of security there will be in one's professional and personal surroundings.

We have learned about people who perpetrate violence, whether street violence or terrorist acts. We have learned how they operate, are arrested for violent crimes and end up in our jail system. We have learned about the inner workings of gangs, both in and out of jail, and how to control and curtail their activities. The secret of our success — and a key contribution of our agency to the war on terrorism — is the Department of Correction's Gang Intelligence Unit, which began six short years ago and is today a state-of-the-art operation, recognized by law enforcement communities throughout the world.

Sitting on a Powder Keg

"Is Rikers About to Explode?" was the question posed on the October 10, 1994, cover of New York magazine. The article was just one of many negative newspaper and magazine articles written about the near riotous climate on



the near riotous climate on

(William J. Fraser is commissioner of the New York City Department of Correction.)

Rikers Island and focused on the attitudes of officers and executive staff, who expressed a real fear of coming to work. In fact, our absence rate was at an all-time high.

We faced a daunting phenomenon — the proliferation of gangs in our system. The violence with which they continued to conduct their business while in jail contributed to exorbitant overtime costs of \$100 million per year, and we were experiencing over 100 stabbings and slashings per month. Staff members were assaulted and intimidated at an alarming rate each and every day.

We knew we needed to take a hard approach to combat the violence. Fortunately, at the time the problem peaked, Rudolph W. Giuliani took office as mayor. He gave us the resources and focus to tackle this problem, much in the same way he attacked crime in the city with the police department. By applying his management and leadership style, we began our own effort to eradicate gang activity by taking command and control of our jails.

In March 1994, a small interdepartmental gang task force was formed to assess the nature and extent of the gang activity, formulate management practices and procedures, and develop recommendations for promulgating a comprehensive policy on gangs.

With the emergence of gangs such as the Bloods, Neta and Latin Kings, however, the task force needed further expansion. In March 1997, the task force was reorganized and renamed the Gang Intelligence Unit (GIU) in an effort to gather and validate information regarding individuals identified as members of security risk groups (i.e., gang members) and monitoring their activities. Currently, the GIU is staffed with 45 uniformed personnel. Three investigators are assigned to the NYPD's Gang Intelligence Unit to gather infor-



A Latin Kings gang tattoo. The Gang Unit's data base includes every tattoo ever processed by the Correction Department.

mation on gang activity from individuals entering the correction system. GIU also has two investigators assigned to the federal High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area task force, providing us with access to a vast law enforcement data base.

In addition to its intelligence-gathering and inmate-monitoring functions, the GIU evaluates and analyzes information and provides recommendations to enhance security for the safe housing and transportation of inmates.

Gang crime is a national problem, each jurisdiction must play a role in the solution, and thus the work of the GIU does not stop in New York City; it distributes intelligence on a national level. The unit relies heavily on its SRG data base tracking system known as Superbase. This application enables us to track the activities of inmates who are identified as members of the 44 identified SRGs. The Superbase system is designed to include basic personal data, including name, gang affiliation, gang rank, date identified, aliases, enemies, associates, weapons carrier, intended contraband recipient and prior arrest. The profile screen gives a detailed physical description of the individual that includes front and side head shots, physical characteristics and photos of scars, markings and tattoos, which are vitally important. The system is unique in that it allows GIU to scan through every tattoo that has ever been processed by the department.

Linked to the Superbase is the Inmate Information System, a powerful data base that allows the department to track every inmate in our system. We know each housing location, inmate classification, court movement, facility transfer, work detail, disciplinary history, separation orders, visit information, telephone records and parole history, if applicable.

Another source of valuable information arising from the work of the GIU is the investigation and the arrest, if warranted, of inmates who commit crimes in our jails. These arrests send a strong message to the inmate population that the Department of Correction has zero tolerance for violence. Prior to the creation of GIU, very few incidents resulted in the arrest and prosecution of an inmate. Except in the most egregious cases, these crimes had previously gone unpunished. Crimes that warranted arrest and prosecution when committed on the street appeared to be of far less importance when committed in jail. Today, the department averages two inmate arrests for every violent incident. As a result, inmate violence has dropped dramatically with each passing year. To be sure,

the department's arrest initiative could not have succeeded without the assistance of the district attorneys who have continued to prosecute these cases, seeking additional and consecutive sentences.

Knowledge Is Power

Gangs continue to form at an alarming rate. They have been identified throughout the United States in cities and communities, large and small, urban and rural. Street gang membership encompasses all races, and hits all socioeconomic levels.

The presence of gangs can be seen everywhere. Gang members do not represent an invisible empire; they thrive on attention and recognition, constantly seeking ways to make their presence felt. They go unseen only when law enforcement personnel, as well as educators and parents, fail to recognize the signs of gang activity. Such failure to recognize or acknowledge the existence of gang activity, whether willingly or through the lack of gang identification training, dramatically increases a gang's ability to thrive and

develop a power base.

Whether you are a parent, teacher, law enforcement officer or concerned citizen, it is imperative that you arm yourself with a knowledge of gangs. Gangs are not a new phenomenon. They have been a presence in our society for over 200 years. The gangs of today did not invent symbols, signs or tattoos. They did not invent particular types of clothing to identify the gang, they did not invent murder as part of the gangs' criminal activities or the use or sale of drugs. With few exceptions, the gangs of today have simply expanded and amplified that which has been part of the gang culture for years.

The DOC has put together an intense training program for members of the law enforcement community, parents, teachers and citizens, as a means of understanding the lure and dynamics of youth involvement in street and prison gangs. Highly qualified correction officer investigators, who also offer tours and community presentations, provide this training. It expands one's awareness and provides the basic knowledge necessary to recognize gang activity in the community and schools.

Clearly, GIU has evolved from a data-collection unit to an invaluable law enforcement resource. The unit's focus has been expanding as new initiatives are begun, not only to reduce violence in our jails but also to help reduce crime in the street. Some of these initiatives include:

1 Operation Guest House. This is a joint program with the NYPD Warrant Squad, in which warrant checks are conducted on individuals visiting prisoners. This effort has resulted in numerous arrests and the closure of many outstanding warrants.

1 Operation Out House. This is also a joint effort with NYPD, along with out-of-city jurisdictions, to check for outstanding warrants upon discharge. This operation is one of our most suc-

Continued on Page 14

Note to Readers:

The opinions expressed on the Forum page are those of the contributing writer or cartoonist, or of the original source newspaper, and do not represent an official position of Law Enforcement News.

Readers are invited to voice their opinions on topical issues, in the form of letters or full-length commentaries. Please send all materials to the editor.



"Lately, I find myself questioning everything. Like, why did I just say, 'Stick 'em up?' 'Gimme your wallet' is what I really meant. That's what really matters."

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Criminal Justice Library

Speaking his mind, whether you like it or not

So many opinions distilled from so much experience — a multitude of insights amid "sesquipedalianism"

Police Unbound: Corruption, Abuse and Heroism by the Boys in Blue.

By Anthony V. Bouza.

New York: Prometheus Books, 2001.
303pp., \$25.00.

By Patrick O'Hara

Let's not fool around: Tony Bouza knows whereof he speaks. He put in 24 years in the New York City Police Department, rising to the position of assistant chief and borough commander of the Bronx. On the way up he had a hand in the birth of 911, served as the one and only Inspector General of the NYPD, was a commander in Harlem, headed the planning division and in the 1960's helped develop an internal civilian complaint review board for the NYPD. That all was before he went on to become deputy chief of the New York City Transit Police and, for nine years, the police chief of Minneapolis.

When you add to this his regular expert testimony (he is a lawyer) on police practices, his consulting work nationwide with police agencies, and his authorship of several books on policing (including "The Police Mystique"), you have a formidable authority whose writing deserves attention.

While I am at it, let me say that his experience is refreshingly tempered by Bouza's chapter-and-verse admissions that he has learned more from his mistakes than from his triumphs. Though this applies to us all, it is recognized by precious few, especially by those writing books about "My Years at the Top of..." Bouza's honesty makes his book as likable as it is highly informative.

Taking a Stand

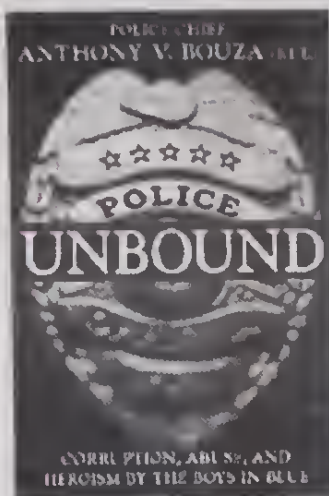
If you want to read a book by one who takes a stand, this is your ticket. Bouza's got an opinion on the death tax (don't eliminate it), the death penalty (eliminate it), police intelligence and police decoys (expand their usage). Bouza takes issue with racial and economic disparities (which he sees as se-

vere and a major underlying cause of crime), mandatory sentences (wrong-headed and counterproductive) and drug laws (which serve to overpopulate prisons with sick people who need rehab).

Bouza presents his views with force and without apology. The police officer reading this book will probably cheer when Bouza scores the political rhetoric of community activists who, in labeling the police decoy a profiling tactic, have all but extinguished an effective crime-fighting tactic serving the safety of the community. But no one of any persuasion should ever get too comfortable when dealing with Tony Bouza. Here's Bouza's response to a sergeant's question about how to treat an officer snared in a sex parlor raid. "What would you do if he was a civilian?" "Book him," answered the sergeant. "You've got your answer," says Bouza to the sergeant, and to us.

Don't Be Lulled

Bouza is, if nothing else, an iconoclast. Law enforcement officers will resonate with Bouza's description of their job as cleaning up messes the rest of us don't have the stomach for. Police, says Bouza, do the dirty work for a society that prefers to look away until something goes wrong and then the finger gets pointed at the cops. But an officer reading this book is forewarned not to get too comfortable with "good old Tony." Be prepared to deal with the notion that court rulings, even the "liberal" ones, make police officers better in the long run. And, although he once helped implement and continues to support a police officer's bill of rights, Bouza's view of police unions is jaundiced. Unions, he believes, pursue ever-



expanding power at the expense of, and often through policies directly inimical to, the effective functioning of police services.

Nor should police managers be lulled by Bouza's take on the big, bad unions. Upon his ascension to the Bronx command, Bouza "found the overwhelming majority of supervisors worse than useless," and this view did not change much when he assumed other managerial posts. To Bouza, "rank has its privilege" is as destructive to police effectiveness and morale as any notion put forth by unions. If managers really want to send a message of effectiveness, productivity and teamwork, he posits, they ought to start by eliminating their special parking places, personal drivers and the other "pilot fish" in their entourages.

Taking It to the Bank

The best parts of this book come when Bouza distills his experiences and opinions into insights that any police supervisor can take to the bank. You can read a thick police management book or you can simply dwell on Bouza's take on police management, which he describes as: "the ability to prioritize; communicate; assess; decide; deal with the press, public, and personnel matters; draw up budgets; decide on physical plant and equipment issues; and control the troops to the point that their behavior, on the street, [is] altered

to conform to the desired model. Management means efficiency and effectiveness — doing things better and cheaper."

Bouza also understands the deeper context of cops naming precincts "Fort Apache" or "The Alamo," as happened in the Bronx, or considering themselves "the baddest gang," as some members of the LAPD did. What happens is the reinforcement of a besieged, occupying force mentality among the officers, which is antithetical to even the beginnings of effective community police relations.

Bouza's understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the law in general is exact, yet has profound practical relevance for police executives. The press not only enjoys First Amendment protections; it feeds the public's hunger for information. Bouza advises police officials to work with the press and cautions executives never to take personally press reports damaging to their departments. "War with the press," Bouza writes, "is war with the people."

I could go on and on. Bouza advises new supervisors that they can't continue to act like "one of the boys" if they expect to discipline their troops when things do wrong. And here's Bouza on MBWA, or "management by walking around," which he was doing long before it became fashionable: "The only useful feedback I'd get was by going out and listening to cops every day."

Toward the end of the book, Bouza gives us no less than 22 insights on how to fight crime, and a seven-step program on how to reform police departments. Although one should read the book to get the full flavor of Bouza's wide-ranging and thoughtful recommendations, here's a sampling. "The criminal justice system should be seen as an inter-related, coherent system rather than as disparate parts..." "Community policing shouldn't be... a touchy-feely public relations effort." Police should be overseen by "an outside Inspector General (IG) who would combine the tasks of Internal Affairs Division, outside auditor, and special prosecutor." Agree or disagree, it is hard to read Bouza's take on these or any other issues without thinking more deeply about how the

police function.

"Dead Latinates"

If this book has one flaw, it's Tony Bouza's love affair with arcane and often inscrutable verbiage. He's not unaware of this tendency. Bouza recounts how a subordinate had identified him as the author of a memo on which Bouza's name had not appeared — "I knew it, because I couldn't understand a word of it." Inwardly, writes Bouza, "I swelled with pride over my sesquipedalian talents, a reaction that makes me wince with embarrassment today as I contemplate how bureaucratized and dead Latinates crippled whatever talents I might have developed as a writer." Sesquipedalian? Out came my American Heritage Dictionary CD-ROM, which was up to the task. Sesquipedalian means long word, or a tendency to use long words.

While he poked fun at his 30-years-ago self, Bouza could easily have targeted numerous passages in the current book. Time again I came skidding to a halt at phrases like "the human animal in dishabille," "prophets manque" and "generic fungibility," not to mention tortured constructions such as "indisputably presumptuous supposition" and "aggressively libidinous." Just as sesquipedalian brought me up short as I read about Bouza's approach to avoiding doctored crime statistics, these other dense phrases distract the reader from Bouza's sharp insights and reasoned opinions.

This quibble aside, let there be no mistake about the value of this book. Any student of criminal justice, law enforcement and society is sure to be stimulated. No one can engage with this book without being provoked to thoughtful reflection on a whole range of legal and social issues. Nor can one come away from reading this book with anything less than a high regard for the integrity of an author who speaks frankly and honestly about what is good and bad about policing in America.

(Patrick O'Hara is associate professor of public management at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York.)

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Ashcroft refocuses agendas of FBI & INS

Continued from Page 1

of the INS is also planned that would involve splitting the agency's two, often conflicting functions. An enforcement wing will guard borders and enforce immigration laws, while a service wing would assist legal immigrants and grant residency cards. The reorganization could take as long as two years, and some of it will require congressional approval.

This realignment, said Ashcroft, would create a clear chain of command for law enforcement officials. Efforts by border patrol agents would be coordinated in nine enforcement offices in Atlanta, New York, Chicago, Minne-

apolis-St. Paul, Denver, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle and El Paso, Tex. The six service wing centers would be situated in Laguna Niguel, Calif., Vancouver, Wash., Burlington, Vt., St. Petersburg, Fla., Dallas, and Milwaukee. The INS expects to add 522 employees as a result of the restructuring.

"America welcomes those immigrants who come here to promote, build, elevate, dignify and lift up freedom," the Attorney General said. Our nation, Ashcroft added, "will not welcome those who come to destroy freedom."

Other key elements of the plan include reallocating 10 percent of the Jus-

tice Department's \$25-billion budget from other divisions within the agency to those units involved in fighting terrorism. A Justice official, speaking as a background source to The San Diego Union-Tribune, said much of that money will be used for a computer linking the FBI, the DEA and the INS with counterintelligence agencies, and local police and prosecutors. Ten percent of employee positions at the Justice

Department's Washington headquarters, the FBI and other federal agencies, will be transferred to field posts as part of the plan, said officials.

Another goal is the development of a plan to "consolidate duplicative functions" within the Justice Department and to streamline processes.

Ashcroft has also vowed to abolish turf warfare among federal agencies. The nation's new anti-terrorism law al-

lows for greater sharing of information between intelligence agencies and law enforcement. "We must tear down the bureaucratic walls that separate component from component and department from department," said Ashcroft's deputy, Larry Thompson. "We must instill a new culture of cooperation, and we must be guided by shared objectives, not parochial organizational interests."

Forum: Getting the drop on street gangs & terrorists

Continued from Page 11

successful initiatives, accounting for the apprehension of numerous individuals who otherwise would have been discharged back into the community. Inmate visitors are also arrested for attempting to pass contraband to an inmate during a visit. The arrest of visitors has drastically reduced the amount of contraband being found in all of our facilities.

1 Operation GRIP (Gang Recidivist Interview Program). Through the

department's Inmate Information History screen, former gang members are identified upon re-arrest. GIU interviews these individuals immediately for information about organized gang activity in the communities where the individuals were arrested. That intelligence is relayed to the NYPD or the appropriate jurisdictional law enforcement agency, and used to formulate takedowns of criminal organizations and, ultimately, contributing to citywide crime reductions.

1 Operation Hot Precinct. As the NYPD Intelligence Unit identifies high-crime areas on a weekly basis, GIU investigators query the Inmate Information System data base for the demographics of prisoners who either resided in or were arrested in that area. Interrogation often gives the NYPD leads as to who committed a particular crime, or the identification of actual suspects.

1 Operation World Trade Center. Following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, GIU investigators immediately reviewed the correctional system's Muslim population in an effort to cultivate leads while reaching out to its informants systemwide for any relevant information. GIU has assumed the role of an intelligence clearinghouse, soliciting, tracking and prioritizing World Trade Center leads. Valuable information has been forwarded to the FBI, in

some cases leading to arrests, one of which uncovered a safe house with over 400 fraudulent documents believed to be intended for terrorists.

What Explosion?

Once again, the department has command and control of the jails. Through the outstanding work of the GIU, we have gone from 100-plus violent incidents a month to just 54 for the entire fiscal year that ended this past June. We have seen a 95-percent reduction in violence and the projection for this fiscal year is even lower.

Through violence reduction, we have been able to reduce assaults on staff and overall uses of force, and have been able to significantly reduce overtime expenditures. Not coincidentally, staff morale is at an all-time high.

Clearly, our GIU capabilities are reaching far beyond just a correctional setting. Nowhere is there more mass intelligence on criminal matters than in our jails and prisons. It is imperative that every member of the law enforcement community utilizes the resources and intelligence necessary to attack gangs, crime and violence in a comprehensive way.

In response to New York magazine's 1994 cover story, Rikers Island did not explode. Rikers Island will never explode.

Closing the book on the LAPD Rampart scandal

Continued from Page 1

and now never will be — include: How many officers in the division were directly involved or complicit by their silence? How high in the department was there knowledge of the corruption? To what extent was there similar corruption in other divisions?"

One of the key problems with the probe, he said, was that no independent commission with subpoena power and the authority to grant immunity was ever created. Without that power, he wrote, it "would be impossible for [the district attorney's] office to learn much...."

To date, the Rampart scandal has resulted in 100 people being released from prison, \$40 million in lawsuit settlements made to Rampart victims, a federal court decree imposed on the department and nine Rampart officers criminally charged. Of that group, four were convicted and sentenced, including Raphael Perez, whose allegations that officers beat suspects, planted evidence and perjured themselves blew the lid off the goings on at the Rampart

Division gang unit. The convictions of three other officers were overturned and are now on appeal; another was acquitted, and the last case is still pending.

Three protocols that explain how and when suspected misconduct by sworn personnel should be reported to the prosecutor's office have been developed by Cooley and agreed to by the county's 70 law enforcement agencies, including both the LAPD and the sheriff's department. Allegations that a crime has been committed by a law enforcement employee will be referred to the Justice System Integrity Division, a unit created by Cooley last year, which will review and prosecute if warranted. Deputy district attorneys who suspect criminal misconduct by a justice system official must notify their supervisors at once. The report is forwarded to the integrity division.

The plan also calls for the use of the District Attorney Response Team, which will respond to every officer-involved shooting, whether the officer was on or off duty, and to every death of a suspect in custody.

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(113001)

Study brings worse news for beleaguered police

A pattern of racial bias detected by a federal study has lent credence to what had previously been largely anecdotal evidence of a disparity in the treatment of white and black suspects by white members of the Prince George's County, Md., Police Department.

In a \$270,000 study funded by the National Institute of Justice, which examined use of force at various sites, researchers found that in Prince George's County resistance by blacks was met by white officers with a near equal amount of force. Conversely, when confronted with the same level of resistance by white suspects, those officers used less force.

The study, which has not been officially released, examined all 211 use-of-force reports filed by Prince George's County officers during the first half of 1999. The findings were based on a "force factor" which measures both the suspects' level of resistance, from cooperation through "aggravated active resistance," and the officers' level of force, up to and including deadly force. White officers, the study said, wielded "the most disproportionate level of force" on black suspects when compared with any other racial combination.

It was also discovered that the department's older officers and those with more years of service used higher levels of force relative to suspect resistance.

"Overall, their use of force was not anything remarkable," stressed Geoffrey Alpert, an author of the study. "It is a normal distribution between officers and suspect." Alpert, a professor of criminal justice at the University of South Carolina, said in an interview with Law Enforcement News, "There may be something behind these use-of-force incidents we don't know, but the number was so great, it really raised a red flag and does need further scrutiny."

Results from similar research conducted on the Miami-Dade County Police Department, released last year,

found that race played a role in use of force, as well, although in that case the authors said it was slight [see LEN, March 15, 2000]. The differences found among officers of different ethnic groups and races was minuscule, but showed that force was more often used by officers against members of their own race or ethnic group.

The Miami-Dade study also found that the greatest likelihood that an offender would assault an officer occurred when the officer was black and the suspect white. In fact, it said, black officers faced resistance 100 percent of the time when apprehending white or Hispanic suspects, according to the incidents studied. Researchers looked at more than 1,000 "control of persons" reports collected by the Miami-Dade department between 1996 and 1998.

The Prince George's County department, long considered a troubled police force, is currently under investigation by the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division to determine whether officers engaged in a pattern of discrimination or used excessive force.

In 1999, the county paid the record sum of \$6 million to persons found to have been mistreated by police. Most of the incidents occurred during the tenure of Chief John S. Farrell, who when hired six years ago from the Miami-Dade Police Department promised to reform the department. Farrell prohibited the use of wooden nightsticks and instead outfitted police with pepper spray and retractable metal batons. He also banned the practice of making drivers and passengers in traffic stops lie face down on the pavement, and ordered training in the use of non-lethal weapons, such as beanbag guns and stun weapons. In addition, consultants were hired to teach officers better communication skills.

But a 15-month investigation by The Washington Post found that Prince George's officers shot 122 people from 1996 through 2000, 47 of them fatally. Nearly half were unarmed and many

had not committed crimes, the newspaper reported in a searing, four-part series published in June [see LEN, July/August 2001].

From 1990 to 2000, The Post found, the Prince George's force shot and killed more people, per officer than any of the 50 biggest police departments in the country. During Farrell's first five full years on the job, from 1996 to 2000, the agency still ranked No. 2 in the nation in fatal shootings per officer.

This past summer, lawmakers, community leaders and even the police union called for Farrell's resignation. State Senator Gloria G. Lawlah, a Democrat who represents the county, called the frequency with which Prince George's officers used deadly force a "national disgrace."

The department would not get a reprieve, said the president of the local Fraternal Order of Police, Anthony M. Walker, until Farrell had been replaced. But the chief said he would not go until he finished the job he started.

Problems of excessive force have not been limited to the county's white officers, noted Clifford Mack Sr., former president of the county's now defunct Black Police Officers Association. Mack said that during his 23 years on the force, from which he retired as a sergeant in 1998, officers of all races broke the rules with little fear of punishment.

Mack contends that white officers react with more severity or unnecessary force because they are often more scared in confrontations with black suspects. "That can be the driving force: the fear factor," he said.

After a 1976 discrimination suit brought by the Justice Department, the agency was forced to hire more black officers, yet it remains predominantly white. Of the county's 1,380 sworn officers, 52 percent are white and 41 percent African American, although 63 percent of Prince George's residents are black. There has been progress made in the department's upper echelons,

however. All three of Farrell's deputy chiefs are black, and blacks hold 44 percent of jobs with the rank of captain or higher.

"We're under tremendous scrutiny for everything we do," Maj. Jeffrey A. Cox, Farrell's chief of staff, told The Post. "We worked so hard to turn things around. This police department can't live down its reputation from the 1970s, when none of us were around."

Alpert said that county officials had rescinded their original agreement to let researchers interview officers and suspects as a follow-up. The study was conducted under rules aimed at ensuring secrecy. Officers and suspects were given a tracking number after providing a written description of the violent incident. The forms were faxed by secure lines to the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) and then destroyed.

"One thing we wanted to do was interview the officer and interview the suspect," Alpert told LEN. "The fact that we weren't allowed to do that raises a red flag. You have to wonder why we weren't allowed to do that."

Dennis Kenney, a co-author of the study and former research director for PERF, told The Post: "The sense we had was that there was concern about us [through interviews] reawakening issues with citizens who already had resolved things. ... frankly, that some of the ones who had decided not to sue [police] might change their minds."

The study's findings "sound like the last nail in the coffin," Edythe Flemings Hall, president of the county's NAACP chapter, told The Post. "I consider it to be very damning, a very serious indictment of the [police]. How can the Justice Department come back now and say there's no problems?"

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Acts of Providence: Poll finds broad public support for cops

Given the racial animosity provoked last year by the shooting of a black, off-duty police officer in Providence, R.I., by two white colleagues, city and department officials were pleasantly surprised last month to find that their efforts to heal that wound have succeeded to the point that more than half of city residents believed local law enforcement was doing a good to excellent job.

Fifty-six percent of the 509 people queried in a Brown University public opinion survey in October rated the department as doing an overall good or excellent job. Thirty-one percent said the department had improved over the past year, although 46 percent said it had not changed at all.

The survey provided a morale-booster for the agency, said Chief Richard T. Sullivan. "What it says to the men and women of the police department is that the community does appreciate the work that they do," he said.

The agency was hurt in 2000 when Sgt. Cornel Young Jr., the son of the department's highest-ranking black officer, was fatally shot on the night of Jan. 28 by two fellow officers who be-

lieved he was a suspect. Young's death ignited cries of racism and accusations by citizens that the department's officers were rude, arrogant and brutal. Young's death led to state and federal investigations and demands that the department be reformed.

Over the past 18 months or more, the agency has made a number of changes, including promoting more community involvement and creating a Citizens Police Academy. What has also helped the department was the heroism of law enforcement officers on Sept. 11, which altered the way many thought about police, said Darrell M. West, director of the Taubman Center for Public Policy, which conducted the survey along with the Public Opinion Laboratory and the university.

"I was a little surprised," he told The Providence Journal-Bulletin. "I'd heard all the stories of the Providence Police Department. I didn't expect the results to be as positive as they are."

While the majority of those polled believed service to be good, 19 percent rated it as fair and 4 percent gave the department a poor rating. Three percent

said they believed service had gotten worse over the past year. However, nearly twice as many minorities as whites said police had improved — 33 percent as compared to 19 percent.

Only 23 percent of those surveyed had had any contact with police, and few of those surveyed had been victims of crime this year, said pollsters. More blacks than whites had direct contact with police when they reported crimes or asked for help — 25 percent as compared to 21 percent.

Two-thirds of respondents said more time should be devoted to training on race relations, and 62 percent said Rhode Island should train all of its local and state police at a single facility.

A solid majority — 58 percent — said they supported the creation of a civilian-review board. The department's internal affairs process has come under criticism for taking as long as a year and a half to work through cases. Only 60 remain from a backlog of 124 complaints in January. There were 18 new cases filed this year, which Sullivan said he hoped to have completed by the end of the year.

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When every day feels like Sept. 11:

Trying to short-circuit post-traumatic stress for rescue workers. **Page 1.**

Plus: How the nation's largest municipal jail system is doing its part in the fight against terrorism. **Forum, Page 11.**

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What They Are Saying:

"We cannot do everything we once did, because lives now depend on us doing a few things very well."

— Attorney General John Ashcroft, outlining a strategic plan for the Justice Department that calls for changing the core mission of the FBI to focus on terrorism. (Story, Page 1.)